FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 021 *31 January 1984*

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

IZVESTIYA Urges 'Honest,' 'Equal' Dialogue AA 1
[Editorial, 29 Jan]
U.S. Expected to 'Budge' on Chemical Weapons Ban AA 3
[Azanov in PRAVDA 27 Jan]
European Socialist Trade Unions' Open Letter AA 6
U.S. Comment on Andropov Interview Cited AA 8
Vatican Forum Views Effects of Nuclear War AA 9
[Zafesov in PRAVDA 27 Jan]

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Andropov Reply to UNESCO Director General's Letter CC 1
U.S. Election Campaign, Mideast Issues Viewed CC 2
[Rusakov in PRAVDA 29 Jan]
International 'Peace Forces' Vienna Meeting Ends CC 6
Palme, Arbatov on Rome Commission's Work [Gerasimov] CC 7
Nonaligned Information Ministers Hit West's Media CC 8
[Sagaidak, Shmelyov, Fedortsov]
USSR Supports 'New Information Order' CC 8
[Shabayev] CC 10
Socialist, Western Views of Stockholm Meeting CC 10
[Vukolov, Konovalov, Stepanenko]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Further Comment on Reagan Reelection Bid A 1
Zorin on 'Late Start' A 1
Economic Assertions 'Misleading' A 2
Promises 'Impossible' To Check [Tsvetov] A 2
Reelection Will Not Be 'Easy' [Lavrentyev] A 2
Campaign Appearances Viewed A 3

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan's Abe Confers With Top U.S. Leaders C 1
'Military Cooperation' Focus [Shalyanev] C 1
U.S. 'Correction' on Japan Nuclear Visits Scored [Kuchko] C 2
Japan Set as U.S. 'Accomplice' on Space Station [Kharkov] C 3

SOUTH ASIA

30th Anniversary of 1st USSR-DRA Accord Hailed D 1
USSR Greetings to DRA [PRAVDA 27 Jan] D 1
DRA Greetings to USSR [PRAVDA 27 Jan] D 1
Kabul Meeting Held D 2
Ryabov Speaks in Moscow D 3
Fertilizer Plant Praised [Baykov in PRAVDA 27 Jan] D 3

Afghanistan Approves Local Administration Bill D 4
Returning Tribes Pledge 'Support' to DRA D 4
Antigovernment 'Gangs' in DRA 'Eliminated' D 4
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 25 Jan]
Dymshits Attends Indian Accord Anniversary Fete D 5
Leaves Moscow D 5
Stops Over in Tashkent D 5
Arrives, Speaks in India D 5
Gilashvili, Others at Moscow Indian Celebration D 5
[PRAVDA 27 Jan]
India's Advances, 'Unsolved Problems' Viewed D 6
[Akhmedzyanov in IZVESTIYA 24 Jan]
India-Pakistan Talks Duck 'Key' Arms Issues [Sivakov] D 8
Indian Paper Hits Pakistan Anti-India 'Attacks' D 9
Gandhi Asks 'New' Information Order at Jakarta D 10
USSR-Bangladesh Ties Reviewed on Anniversary [Vladimirov] D 10
Briefs: Electricity for Afghanistan D 11

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Indochina Ministers' 'Constructive Line' Hailed E 1
Kapitsa Receives Ambassadors E 1
'Unanimity' on Communique [IZVESTIYA 31 Jan] E 1
SPK Attack on 'Puppet' Sihanouk's 'Farce' Cited E 2
[IZVESTIYA 27 Jan]
Manila Steps May Cut Trade 'Dependence' on West E 2

EASTERN EUROPE

Gromyko Leads Party, State Delegation to Romania F 1
Delegation Departs Moscow F 1
Delegation Greeted on Arrival F 1
Gromyko-Ceausescu Talks F 1
Participants in Talks F 2
Romanian Media Coverage [cross-reference] F 2
USSR, GDR Foreign Trade Ministers Confer 26 Jan F 3
[PRAVDA 28 Jan]
Hungarian Socialist Delegation Visits Moscow F 3
MSZMP CC Secretary Arrives [Budapest] F 3
Economic Cooperation Discussed F 3

WESTERN EUROPE

Arkhipov Pays 'Official' Visit to France G 1
Arrives in Paris G 1
Talks With Cheysson, Cresson G 1
French Reportage [cross-reference] G 2
Soviet-French Ties 'Developing Successfully' G 2
[Kharlanov in PRAVDA 30 Jan]
French Businessmen Comment on Trade With USSR [Lopatin] G 4
British MP's Visit Leningrad, Leave for Helsinki G 4
FRG Spokesman's Reaction to Andropov Interview G 5
[Ostrogorskiy]
Continued Counterarmament Opposition in FRG Seen G 6
Spanish Parliamentarian Assesses USSR Visit G 7
[Kamynin in IZVESTIYA 24 Jan]

Spanish Military Modernization Linked to U.S. [Konstantinov] G 8
Italy Plans To Send Military 'Units' to Sardinia [Solomin] G 9
Danish Socialist Parties 'Demand' Nuclear Ban G 9
Greece Refuses To Join NATO 'Dense Crop' Exercise G 10
'Large Increase' Seen in Greek Exports to USSR G 10
Turkish-Soviet Trade Talks Begin in Moscow G 10
Bilateral Trade Discussion [Ankara] G 10
Delegations Continue Contacts [Ankara] G 10
Agreement Signed [Ankara] G 11

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

U.S., USSR Policies Toward Lebanon Contrasted [Lavrentyev] H 1
U.S. 'Deliberately' Fueling Tensions in Lebanon H 1
Jordan's Husayn on Israel's Land Annexation H 2
Jewish 'Desecration' of Arab Mosques Noted H 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Cited on U.S. Missile Deployment H 2

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

U.S. Reaffirms Support for Habre, French Actions [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 28 Jan] J 1
U.S., France Want C. African 'Hotbed of Tension' [Myakota] J 1
U.S. 'Destabilization' of African Regimes Viewed [Glebov] J 2
U.S. African Policy Seeks 'Isolation, Submission' [Tanov] J 3

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Shultz' Latin America, Caribbean Trip Previewed [Lyuty] K 1
U.S. Support for Guatemalan Regime Criticized [Anikin] K 1
U.S. 'Bloody Adventure' in Grenada Castigated [Bogomolov] K 2
Grenada Ambassador Jacobs Leaves Moscow 27 Jan K 3
Closes Moscow Embassy [CANA] K 3
Khalilov Delegation to Venezuela for Inauguration K 3

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Politburo Discusses Stockholm Talks, Other Issues [PRAVDA 28 Jan] R 1
IZVESTIYA Carries Series on Lenin's Last Days [Jan 20-23] R 2

CPSU's Romanov Gives Leningrad Ceremonial Speech [IZVESTIYA 28 Jan] R 5
Meets Party Officials [PRAVDA 29 Jan] R 12
Lays Memorial Wreath R 12
Estonian, Belorussian Officials Appointed R 12
Estonian Raykoms Elect First Secretaries [SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA] R 12
Lithuanian Council of Ministers Official Named [SOVETSKAYA LITVA 10 Dec] R 13
Lithuanian Raykom First Secretaries Elected [SOVETSKAYA LITVA 17, 18, 24, 25 Dec] R 13
Necessity of Delivery Discipline Reviewed R 13

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CPSU's Gorbachev Tours Farm in Georgia [ZARYA VOSTOKA 20 Jan] T 1
Shevardnadze Visits Factory, Livestock Complex [ZARYA VOSTOKA 20 Jan] T 3
Agro-Industrial Commission Views Current Tasks [IZVESTIYA 25 Jan] T 4
Spare Machinery Deliveries Not Completed [Grachev in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 22 Jan] T 5
Progress in Farm Repair Work Reviewed [Tsyvarev in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 18 Jan] T 6
Creation of Environmental Commission Urged [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 11 Jan] T 7
Briefs: Ukraine's Food Deliveries; Ukraine Fulfills Plan; Armenian Meat Production T 9

IZVESTIYA URGES 'HONEST,' 'EQUAL' DIALOGUE

PM301658 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "For an Honest Dialogue on Equal Terms"]

[Text] Calm, confident words rang out from Moscow a few days ago. The whole planet's attention is reveted on them. The replies by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to questions put to him by the newspaper PRAVDA, are being welcomed by the international public as a voice of reason in the chaos of tension fueled by Washington under cover of reassuring statements.

The world's peace-loving forces and all those who are capable of confronting soberly the harsh realities of the day see the Soviet leader's utterances as a firm warning to the adventurists in nuclear armor. People find in the words of the leader of the CPSU and the head of the Soviet state a reliable confirmation of their belief that mankind can rid itself of the threat of a global war catastrophe, and that it can do so despite the increasing nuclear danger.

Characterizing the present international atmosphere, Yu.V. Andropov emphasizes: "It is critical and dangerous. To underestimate it is impermissible." An honest and courageous conclusion. A conclusion determined by reality. And this reality affords no ground for carefree optimism.

The "crusade" declared by Washington against socialism as a social system is gathering momentum. One after another, U.S. nuclear missiles are being sited on West European territory and immediately put into a state of combat readiness -- readiness, that is, to destroy and to kill. Weapons for aggression in outer space marked "Made in USA" are being tested. More and more holes caused by shells fired from U.S. warships and craters caused by bombs dropped by Israeli and U.S. planes are disfiguring Lebanese soil in places where as recently as yesterday, or even today, maybe just an hour ago, people were still living and children were still playing. Grenada is bleeding under the jackboot of the U.S. Marine, while Washington is training the barrels of intervention on new targets, other sovereign states in Central America, that is...the international climate on our planet today is critical and dangerous.

However, the world's peoples are responding to Washington's militarist activities not only with mounting alarm. Awareness of the true origins of the threat to mankind is spreading, and more and more millions of people are joining the ranks of active fighters for peace. Resistance to the adventurist plans of total suppression of dissidents is increasing. The voice of reason is appealing more and more loudly to the common sense of Western statesmen and political leaders. "We do not regard our people's welfare and the Soviet state's security as separate from and, even less, as counterposed to, the welfare and security of other peoples and other countries," Yu.V. Andropov's 28 September 1983 statement notes. "In the nuclear age the world must not be viewed from the angle of narrowly egoistic interests. Responsible statemen have only one option -- to do all they can to avert a nuclear catastrophe. Any other stance is shortsighted, worse still, it is suicidal."

The USSR Supreme Soviet, in a resolution adopted on the eve of the new year, appealed to the U.S. Congress and the parliaments of the other NATO countries to utilize all levers at their disposal to induce these countries' governments to abandon the "from a position of strength" policy, which is endangering the cause of peace, and to give up their attempts to achieve military superiority.

It is necessary to strive for an end to the deployment of the new U.S. missiles in Europe and for the removal of those already sited there, and for the creation of the necessary preconditions for the resumption of honest businesslike talks on the limitation of nuclear arms -- this is the demand contained in the appeal of the WPC, which represents the public of 140 of the planet's countries, published in West Berlin 23 January. "In the face of the continuing escalation of tension, the public is expressing the hope that, as a result of international talks, all types of nuclear weapons trained on targets in Europe will be gradually eliminated. This nuclear disarmament must be accompanied by the destruction of all types of mass destruction weapons and by considerable reductions in conventional arms and armed forces," says the message published by the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation, published in Brussels 25 January.

Are these appeals heeded in Washington? Is the White House prepared to pay attention to the demands of millions of people and to the call of reason?

Washington keeps reiterating its "desire for dialogue" -- with the reservation, however, that the "dialogue" which the people on the banks of the Potomac have in mind "must go hand in hand with strength." Such explanations are deliberately dooming any talks to inconclusiveness. And Washington is perfectly aware of this. "Judging by appearances, the U.S. leadership has not abandoned its intention to conduct talks with us from a position of strength, from a position of threats and pressure," Yu.V. Andropov stresses. "We resolutely reject such an approach."

The positions held by the Washington administration today as regards problems of crucial importance for mankind -- the problems of war and peace -- thus make it impossible to claim (as U.S. and NATO leading circles have been trying to do of late, purely for propaganda purposes) that "the world has become a safer place." All the more serious consideration is given by people on various continents to the message that has reached them from Moscow.

The universal interest and deep attention attracted by the replies to PRAVDA's questions are natural, in the prevailing critical and dangerous atmosphere the Soviet Union is again showing convincingly that mankind is not doomed to a nuclear catastrophe, that embarking on the path of endless confrontation with the United States is not part of our country's designs and does not correspond to the interests of our people. This is borne out by the clear and specific proposals and initiatives which could -- should the United States and the other NATO countries so desire and show sufficient political will -- lead to mutually acceptable accords on the most serious problems and make the world in which we live a truly safer place.

The measures proposed by us are simple and at the same time effective. They are not aimed at the acquisition by the Soviet Union and the socialist community of any one-sided advantages over the West, since they are built on the only reliable principle -- the principle of equality and identical security. The realization of the potential contained in the range of Soviet initiatives would help to substantially improve the international climate and enhance the level of confidence in the world.

"The Soviet leadership is convinced," Yu.V. Andropov stresses, "that opportunities exist for a serious discussion of a number of problems whose solution would indubitably lead to a normalization of the world situation and improved Soviet-American relations."

This confidence that reason is capable of overcoming the global crisis created artificially by the United States in its pursuit of the chimera of military omnipotence accords with the aspirations of the world's peoples. Moscow is again -- as so many times before -- offering dialogue to Washington. Honest, constructive dialogue on equal terms. This strengthens the possibility of transforming the prevailing critical and dangerous atmosphere into an atmosphere conducive to the preservation of peace.

That is what the planet's peoples demand. That is, too, what the Soviet Union has been striving for consistently. And, if the U.S. Government manages to drop its belligerent rhetoric and "strong-arm diplomacy" in favor of peace and cooperation, then it will have no difficulty in finding the door to a fair, substantial dialogue with our country: We have always held and are holding this door wide open.

U.S. EXPECTED TO "BUDGE" ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS BAN

PM301226 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[B. Azanov article: "Eliminating the Chemical Threat: Socialist Countries' New Proposal"]

[Text] The start of 1984 was marked by a decisive reaffirmation of our country's foreign policy course aimed at reducing the threat of war. The most important directions in this course are clearly set forth in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's answers to PRAVDA's questions. The new politicodiplomatic act of the USSR and the other fraternal socialist countries lies in this same direction. They recently put forward a proposal on the question of ridding Europe of chemical weapons. Let us recall that this proposal was already part of the Warsaw Pact states' 1983 Prague Political Declaration. The new step taken by the Warsaw Pact participants develops and significantly fleshes out the Prague initiative.

The socialist countries have drawn up a detailed list of states' possible commitments with regard to territory free of chemical weapons, commitments which, taken together, should effectively ensure the absence of chemical weapons on that territory. They envisage the possibility of agreeing on mutually acceptable, adequate forms of monitoring and providing the relevant guarantees to states with regard to respect for the status of the zone free from chemical weapons and other measures intended to ensure the effectiveness of the future agreement.

In the socialist countries' opinion it is advisable to carry out practical measures during the implementation of their initiative, taking all factors and circumstances into account in consecutive order, one after another. This work could be started by a meeting of accredited representatives of the relevant states. It is proposed to convene one in 1984. The meeting could also agree on a forum for future talks on this problem. Of course, not only the Warsaw Pact and NATO states, but also other European states could be involved in the preparation and holding of these talks.

The new initiative is yet another specific expression of the consistent course of the USSR and the other socialist community countries toward fully banning and destroying chemical weapons.

This task can be radically solved on a global level by concluding an appropriate international convention, talks on which are currently being conducted in the Disarmament Committee in Geneva. This was and still is the socialist countries' main goal.

But the parallel taking of steps to reduce and eliminate the chemical threat within the framework of individual continents, in particular the European Continent, could effectively promote the achievement of this goal. As experience shows, a regional approach to the limitation and elimination of arms can open up additional prospects for resolving complex problems, since it makes it possible to consider the military and political particularities peculiar to one region or another. This approach has already gained wide international recognition in a number of avenues for preventing the danger of war, including in the sphere of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, the limitation of armed forces and conventional arms, and so forth.

This is precisely why the regional approach to banning chemical weapons is attracting the increasingly close attention of states and wide circles of the peace-loving public. Thus the report of the independent Commission on Questions of Disarmament and Security (the Palme Commission) contains an appeal for "the creation of a zone free from chemical weapons in Europe, starting with central Europe." It is no accident that the last two UN General Assembly sessions adopted on the initiative of the GDR, the other socialist countries, and also nonaligned countries resolutions reflecting the idea of creating zones free from chemical weapons.

In submitting their new proposal the socialist countries could not fail to consider the fact that recently the danger of chemical weapons being used, above all in Europe, has increased. This is the result both of the general deterioration in the international situation and of the systematic U.S. preparations for chemical war. Not satisfied with the world's largest chemical arsenal, the present U.S. Administration is working toward another round in the race in this type of armaments. The main place in the multibillion-dollar U.S. rearmament program in this sphere goes to the so-called binary charges. According to the U.S. military's schemes, these are to significantly increase the effectiveness of this barbaric means of the mass destruction of people. It is planned to site the new ammunition primarily in West Europe as a supplement to the U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles and to the U.S. chemical arsenals already there.

You do not have to be a military specialist to realize that this poses a danger to all states and peoples of our densely populated continent. As, for instance, the aforesaid Palme Commission report notes, in the event of a conflict involving the use of chemical weapons in this region the ratio of military to civilian deaths could be 1:20.

The implementation of the socialist countries' proposal would make it possible to substantially reduce the risk of chemical war in Europe, and, consequently, throughout the world. It would be possible to begin reducing arsenals of chemical weapons and, as an immediate goal, to prevent the buildup of these weapons in Europe and avert a dangerous cycle in the arms race, which in its turn would strengthen European security and promote the strengthening of mutual trust and an improvement in the general political atmosphere.

The socialist countries' proposal has already aroused a broad interested response among the West European public. For instance, the leaders of the Social Democratic Party of Germany have reacted extremely positively to it. As for the reaction of those whom it primarily concerns -- the NATO states -- it would be premature to draw any conclusions just yet. The Western capitals say that the proposal is being studied. Study, of course, is a useful thing. Only it is important that it be conducted seriously and not serve as a pretext for endlessly avoiding a reply.

In this connection attention is drawn by the attempts by certain NATO circles to sow skepticism about the very idea of ridding Europe of chemical weapons and to declare it to be "empty propaganda." They claim that it may distract attention from drawing up an international convention banning chemical weapons.

Thus in a recent interview U.S. Secretary of State Shultz argued along the lines that the creation of a zone free from chemical weapons is not verifiable "since chemical weapons are easily transportable." This, to say the least, is strange logic. After all, virtually any weapon can be moved. Must we really conclude from this that the regional approach to arms limitation is ineffective and that it is impossible to agree on adequate controls? Of course, it is not a question of controls, nor of a U.S. desire for a global resolution of the question of chemical weapons, as the secretary of state declared.

It is the very people attempting to call the Warsaw Pact's initiative into question who are blocking the talks on banning chemical weapons in the Geneva Disarmament Committee.

You do not need to go far to find examples. In 1982 the Soviet Union put on the negotiating table the draft "Basic Provisions of a Convention on Banning the Development, Production, and Stockpiling of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction." This document not only took into account everthing positive that had been amassed in the course of the previous examination of this problem, but also contained important compromise proposals on the question of monitoring observance of the convention. In an attempt to clear the way for an accord the USSR advocated that, along with onsite inspections on a voluntary basis -- as it had previously proposed -- the convention provide for the holding of systematic compulsory inspections with regard to the elimination of chemical weapon stockpiles and the authorized production of a limited quantity of supertoxic lethal chemicals.

The Soviet Union also took a whole series of constructive steps in the course of the 1983 session of the Disarmament Committee. In particular, mindful of the wishes of a number of states, our country expressed its readiness to include in the convention being drawn up a clause banning the use of chemical weapons. In order to verify states' observance of this ban the convention's monitoring mechanism, including onsite inspection on a voluntary basis, would be used.

The United States responded to this by toughening its stance on a number of aspects of the problem, specifically on monitoring. It rejected the principle it had previously recognized of voluntariness in conducting onsite inspections by request. Futhermore, whereas previously Washington had insisted on systematic international monitoring of the destruction of chemical weapons and facilities for their production as well as of the production of supertoxic lethal chemicals for defensive purposes, it now put forward in addition to this new demands for verification. And these are demands that in no way accord with the tasks of monitoring the banning of chemical weapons.

The United States also opposed the idea of a chemical arms freeze, which was put forward by the Soviet Union at the 38th UN General Assembly session.

The socialist countries are entitled to expect the position of the United States and its allies to finally budge in the course of the talks in the Geneva Disarmament Committee, which resumed 16 January. The question of ridding Europe from these barbaric mass destruction weapons could also be examined at the Stockholm conference. For their part the socialist community states will continue to do everything necessary to ensure that no place for chemical weapons is left on earth.

The socialist countries' proposal to rid Europe of chemical weapons gives the West a good opportunity to prove -- not in words, but in deeds -- its interest in speedily removing the danger of chemical war. The world's peoples will judge from the reaction of the United States and its allies to the proposal whether the new very frequent statements by officials of the NATO countries regarding their readiness for dialogue are a reflection of genuine intentions or are just another propaganda maneuver.

EUROPEAN SOCIALIST TRADE UNIONS' OPEN LETTER

LD310758 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1330 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow 30 Jan [TASS] -- We transmit the text of the open letter published here from the trade unions of European socialist countries to the workers and trade unions of Europe:

Comrades, friends:

We turn to you again, after the Berlin appeal, concerning the most vital problems of the present time -- the problems of war and peace. The increased tension in the international situation prompts us to do this. Ignoring the legitimate demands and expectations of workers and trade unions, of all peace-loving forces, the United States has begun deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles on the territory of the FRG, Great Britain, and Italy. The first of them have already been brought to combat readiness. This has resulted in the collapse of the Geneva talks and the adoption of retaliatory measures by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. However, our aim was and remains a nuclear-free Europe, the saving of mankind from nuclear catastrophe.

We have heard with satisfaction your appeals to the workers and the peace-loving public of Europe. We express full solidarity with your fight against war, and are convinced that ours is a common task in defending the right of peoples to peace, freedom, and life.

The antiwar movement, in which trade unions take an active part, has demonstrated its mighty potential. It has shown that workers do not intend to capitulate before the forces of militarism and reaction. They do not intend to resign themselves to the thought of the inevitability of nuclear war.

The working class is decisively against the arms race, which not only paves the way to war, but also brings disastrous social consequences -- unemployment, a decline in the standard of living of working people, and deprives millions impoverished in the developing countries of aid.

Europe is our home and it is the general concern of working people and all trade unions to save it from the flames of war. There is nothing more important to people today than to defend peace and achieve the destruction of the military arsenals.

In the new situation, one of the central aims of the struggle is the demand to halt the deployment of the new U.S. missiles in Western Europe, remove the missiles already installed and return to the situation existing prior to deployment. This will open the way to creating conditions for the resumption of talks, the restoration of the climate of trust between peoples and the complete liberation of Europe from nuclear weapons.

We consider it the common duty and common cause of the working people and trade unions of Europe to strengthen actions:

To halt the arms race, reduce existing nuclear weapons on the principles of equality and identical security, then to fully destroy nuclear weapons, and to use the resources made available in the interests of working people;

To conclude a treaty between the Warsaw Pact member states and NATO on the mutual nonuse of [word indistinct] and the maintenance of relations of peace.

Peace and the security of peoples can only be guaranteed by total disarmament, primarily nuclear.

Trade unions, regardless of their orientation, need more than ever before to act to achieve these aims.

We propose to the trade unions of Europe a joint address to the participants in the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament so as to express the unified will of working people for peace.

We favor any constructive steps aimed at the convening of a pan-European trade union meeting for peace, disarmament, and mutually advantageous cooperation of states with differing social systems.

The trade union centers of the European socialist countries are ready immediately to conduct consultations on the convening of such a meeting, and to discuss all the issues connected with its preparation seriously and comprehensively.

We state our firm determination to develop cooperation in the antimilitary struggle at all levels, at the level of territorial and branch trade unions, trade union centers, and twin towns within the framework of broad pan-European peace-loving actions.

Peace is our common aim. The fight against the war threat is our common task. We believe that a nuclear disaster can be averted. The peoples are filled with resolution to achieve this.

We will act with the full measure of our joint responsibility for tomorrow's earth and for the fate of present and future generations!

The Central Council of Bulgarian Trade Unions

The All-Hungarian Council of Trade Unions

The Central Board of the Association of Free German Trade Unions

Representatives of the Trade Union Movement of Poland

The Central Council of the General Association of Trade Unions of Romania

The All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions

The Central Council of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement of the CSSR

U.S. COMMENT ON ANDROPOV INTERVIEW CITED

LD291745 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 29 TASS -- The United States press continues widely commenting on Yuriy Andropov's answers to the questions of the newspaper PRAVDA of January 25, 1984. The theme of the Soviet-American dialogue is widely covered in most comments and analyses. Some United States mass media quote in detail the Soviet leader's pronouncements on the usefulness and advisability of such a dialogue. Clearly acting on the instructions of the White House, they are at the same time trying to hush up the specific programme of the talks which was set forth in Yuriy Andropov's answers and could become the basis of the agenda of a Soviet-American dialogue.

Many commentators compare the package of large-scale measures directed at reaching practical agreements on a freeze, on the limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security suggested in these answers with Reagan's address, in which he was also trying to create an impression that he was calling for a dialogue.

This comparison is clearly to the disadvantage of the United States President, as "dialogue Reagan-style" has not been backed up by a single new idea, any specific initiatives either on the issue of limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe or on other issues. The President has not displayed realism in his approach to the most vital problems, said Senator Ernest Hollings. The Reagan administration has failed, in its ostentatious statement for peace, to convince of its striving for peace not only the Soviet Union, but even the NATO allies of the United States, the NEWSDAY points out. We find it very hard to believe President Reagan's seriousness, when he speaks of his striving for peace, the newspaper quotes a West German diplomat as saying.

A number of newspapers recognize that the statement by the Soviet leader, which contains a whole programme for conducting talks, looks serious and convincing. It is pointed out that the adoption by the American side of the Soviet proposals would considerably improve relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, and all over the world. Reagan's policy and his strong attacks against the Soviet Union have already resulted in creating a cold war atmosphere, THE NEW YORK TIMES points out. It would be by far more hopeful for the Americans and for the rest of the world, if the President made real efforts for limiting and reducing strategic weapons, ratified the SALT-2 treaty, concluded a treaty banning the placing of nuclear weapons in outer space, and a treaty on complete and general ban on nuclear weapons tests, the newspaper stresses.

The President is obsessed with the dangerous urge to build up the arms race, the AP agency quotes James Wright, the Democratic majority leader in the House of representatives. Political circles stress the firmness and consistency of the Soviet stand on the attempts made by the White House at forcing on the Soviet Union talks from the positions of strength, from the positions of threats and pressure, of seeking talks for the sake of talks. Also pointed out is the invariability of the Soviet stand as regards conditions for the resumption of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on European medium-range nuclear weapons. Many mass media in the United States have headlined their commentaries with Yuriy Andropov's pronouncement that the Soviet Union will judge the seriousness of the intentions of the United States by its practical deeds. The American electors, THE NEW YORK TIMES points out, should also stick to that principle, when they have to decide whether to vote for Reagan or not.

The White House and the State Department made parallel statements in an attempt to neutralise and scale down, as far as possible, the positive effect of the proposals on the talks among the political circles of the United States. These statements "welcome" the USSR's readiness to use any real chance for conducting talks, for a Soviet-American dialogue. In so doing, however, the United States Administration's officials deliberately pass over in silence the specific Soviet initiatives put forward in Yuriy Andropov's answers, persistently reaffirm the invariability of the American approach to the question of limitation of nuclear weapons, in particular the commitment of the United States to the NATO's double track decision. One cannot help drawing the conclusion on the basis of the offical statements made here: The Reagan administration is trying to lay emphasis, for the sake of appearances, on the outward aspect of the matter in the spirit of the statement of the President on the need for "a dialogue as such" and formally places on record now the "consent of both sides with that."

In so doing, however, the Americans side fails, as before, to give an answer to the Soviet proposals, which are designed to fill such a dialogue with specific content and thus contribute to improving Soviet-American relations and normalising the situation in the world as a whole. According to the DAILY WORLD, Reagan makes it clear that he is totally on the side of the militaristic and ultra right-wing circles, which are bent on ensuring global military superiority for the United States. The newspaper warns that this policy is fraught with catastrophic consequences.

VATICAN FORUM VIEWS EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR WAR

PM271506 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 84 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent F. Zafesov under the rubric "Reason Must Prevail": "The Scientists' View"]

[Text] 26 Jan [place not given] -- An international scientists' meeting to study the effect of nuclear explosions on the atmosphere, organized by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, has ended in the Vatican. It was attended by eminent scientific figures from a number of countries in Europe and America, including the Soviet scientists Ye.L. Velikhov and V.V. Aleksandrov.

The meeting participants expressed deep concern in connection with the sharp exacerbation of the international situation and the buildup of the nuclear arms race. Nuclear war, the scientists stressed, would have catastrophic consequences for mankind and for the whole world. They exchanged the latest scientific data on the effect of nuclear explosions on the environment. It was noted that the use of nuclear weapons would mean not only the instant death of millions of people but would also result in a sharp fall in air temperature. This phenomenon would be of a global nature and would affect the entire planet. Therefore, the scientists stressed, it is absolutely vital to seek a gradual and balanced reduction of nuclear armaments.

The meeting participants adopted a final document warning that it would be exceedingly dangerous to use nuclear weapons. It is clear, it says, that the vast number of people affected by a nuclear explosion would die of cold, hunger, radiation, or disease.

ANDROPOV REPLY TO UNESCO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S LETTER

LD310500 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 31 Jan 84

["Yuriy Andropov's Reply to a Letter From UNESCO Director General" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 31 TASS -- Follows the complete text of Yuriy Andropov's reply to a letter from the UNESCO director general:

"Mr Director General,

"Thank you for the book 'Where the Future Begins,' which you have sent me and which presents your thoughts about the fate of mankind.

"I cannot help sharing the worry you are voicing in connection with the arms race and the threat of nuclear war. Indeed, this threat is growing, but not through our fault, as everyone knows. Millions of people are realizing ever clearer that the source of tension is the imperial course of the U.S. Administration, viewing the whole of the globe as its sovereign possession and arrogating to itself the right to impose on others certain ways of life.

"The Soviet Union follows a different line on the international scene. This line coincides with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations Organization and its specialized agency, UNESCO.

"Together with the overwhelming majority of UNESCO member-states, we support the activities of the organisation you head for the benefit of peace and international cooperation. The strengthening and developing of such cooperation assumes special importance in conditions of growing tensions. UNESCO can do a great deal in the struggle for ensuring reliable peace.

"The tasks before UNESCO in the fields of science, culture and education are inseparable from the struggle against racism, apartheid and attempts to consolidate the system of inequitable international economic relations. One can only welcome UNESCO's efforts to put an end to these anachronisms reminiscent of the disgraceful times of colonial rule.

"Mass information media have an important part to play in establishing mutual understanding and cooperation between the peoples, in the struggle for peace and removing the threat of war. Therefore we understand the attention given by UNESCO to the establishment of a system of a new international order in the field of information, an order that would help eliminate 'information imperialism' and the domination of Western monopolies in this field.

"The plan of UNESCO's activities for 1984-1989, approved by the UNESCO member-states, shows that such orientation meets the interests of the overwhelming majority of the states represented in UNESCO.

"Those who try to set themselves against the community of the states which successfully cooperate to mutual advantage in UNESCO should realise that they bear the entire responsibility for that. And the peoples will become convinced once again who is their friend and who is their enemy.

"I am confident that further development of the relations of cooperation between the USSR and UNESCO meets the vital interests of the people, the cause of peace and progress.

"With the best of wishes and respect,

[Signed] "Yu.V. Andropov"

A letter by Amadou Mahtar M'Bow

UNESCO Director-General Amadou Mahtar M'Bow has sent his book "Where the Future Begins" to Yuriy Andropov, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. In an accompanying letter he emphasises that the book is the result of long meditations on the world problems in UNESCO in connection with the preparation of the second medium-term plan for the organisation's activities for 1984-1989. In keeping with the wishes expressed by the general conference, the letter says further, the plan must be based on a profound analysis of world problems. With this end in view, wide-ranging consultations have been held with the member-states, international governmental and non-governmental organisations and various figures.

I strove to take into account as much as possible various opinions expressed, Amadou Mahtar M'Bow writes. But the text which I prepared expresses in the final analysis my own vision of the contemporary world and of history which makes it possible to understand it and of the future which it is necessary to build in order to meet the requirements of the present moment.

The general conference, having endorsed at its fourth special session the UNESCO's second medium-term plan, unanimously passed a resolution in which it supported the ideas expressed in the book which I have the honour of sending to you, Amadou Mahtar M'Bow points out in conclusion.

U.S. ELECTION CAMPAIGN, MIDEAST ISSUES VIEWED

PM301655 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

["International Review" by Yevgeniy Rusakov]

[Text] In his replies to PRAVDA's questions Comrade Yu.V. Andropov gave a clear, realistic, balanced assessment of the present moment and ways out of the dangerous situation created by Washington and NATO. The publication of these replies has attracted the attention of the whole world. The USSR's principled stance and its suggested package of large-scale measures aimed at achieving practical accords on freezing, limiting, and reducing nuclear arms on the basis of the principle of equality and identical security and at normalizing the international situation as a whole have made a great impression everywhere, as has the firm statement that the USSR will not close its eyes to the presence of the new U.S. missiles in West Europe, which are aimed against itself and its allies, or embark on talks for the sake of talks.

To judge by the reaction of the Western public and press and indeed some governments, the gist of what was said in Moscow has gotten through to them, although, as always, official propaganda is trying to distort it. We must look the truth straight in the eye and not attempt, as Washington is doing, to disseminate "starry-eyed" but irresponsible allegations to the effect that nothing has happened. Soviet people are optimists. Our country is doing everything which has to be done to stand up for itself and its allies, taking strictly commensurate retaliatory steps. But we believe that there is a way out of the vicious circle of a new round of the arms race unleashed by Washington and NATO. If not today then tomorrow the peoples' weighty words will have an effect and sanity will triumph.

"Speak Softly..."

The latest political campaigning jamboree has begun in Washington. In the past 2 weeks the White House has been summing up results and is projecting, or to be more precise, promising prospects -- bright ones, of course. The President's annual "State of the Union" address was devoted to this subject. Finally, R. Reagan's official announcement that he intends to run for President for a second term is scheduled for today, 29 January.

The slogan with which he intends to go out to the electorate is already prepared: "We'll finish the job." A "job" which has been termed in the United States as "a conservative counterrevolution" aimed against the poor, the blacks, and all working people.

The "packaging" for this "job" is being given a commercial sheen, particularly its foreign policy section. President Theodore Roosevelt's famous saying "Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far" has been somewhat improved on by his present Washington supporters. It is now called "peace through strength." So now the White House is emphasizing the first part of the catchphrase -- "peace" -- that is, "speak softly." And it is also trying to claim that this is almost a "shift" in U.S. foreign policy.

The Americans have heard all this before. In 1980, when, after the Republican convention which proclaimed as its goal the attainment of "comprehensive military superiority," Reagan, as Republican candidate, reassured voters with his "moderate" speeches. And again in November, 1981, when, lulling the West Europeans perturbed by the President's statement concerning the possibility of a "limited" nuclear war in Europe, the White House changed its mask and designed to consent to sit down at the conference table at the Geneva talks (in order to thwart them). Meanwhile the Washington production line manufacturing the tools of nuclear death was running faster and faster, and blood was flowing in Lebanon, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Grenada.

In 1976 the election committee for former U.S. President G. Ford issued the following commercial radio broadcast in California, "When you vote, remember that Governor Reagan can't start a war, but President Reagan could." It was as though they had foresight. The present U.S. Administration has already managed to launch two "hot" wars -- in Lebanon and Greanada -- and one "cold" one -- between West and East -- and to initiate and continue several undeclared wars -- against Nicaragua, Afghanistan, and Kampuchea.

That is the "firm, long-term peace" advertised by the White House. That is its present version of "talks" and "dialogue," which is nothing other than a typical example of the same nuclear blackmail: By targeting missiles on the USSR, Washington would like to dictate its own one-sided terms to our country.

Not a thing has changed in Washington's actions or in the understanding of the world which determines them. In its topsy-turvy militarist philosophy military-strategic equilibrium means the USSR's "superiority," the conservation of parity in terms of Warsaw Pact and NATO medium-range weapons in Europe means a missile "monopoly" for the USSR, U.S. superiority means "equilibrium," and the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles is "the restoration of equilibrium."

Not satisfied with the enormous existing nuclear potential, the Reagan administration is obsessively demanding the development and creation of ever new nuclear arms designed for a "protracted" war. It is also preparing for "star wars" and trying, with the aid of beam and laser weapons, to create over the United States a "cosmic shield" behind which it could supposedly hide, kindling a nuclear conflagration with impunity.

The components for cruise missile complexes are now arriving at the Comiso base in Sicily. During Dutch Prime Minister R. Lubbers' visit to the United States, which ended early last week, the White House organized another "arm twisting" session in an attempt to secure official consent for the deployment of cruise missiles in the Netherlands.

Another test -- unsuccessful, it is true -- of the sea-launched Tomahawk cruise missile took place recently. Another U.S. nuclear submarine of the Los Angeles type, one of those designed for the 2,500 Tomahawks which are planned to be brought into combat readiness before 1989, has been launched. The first testing of an antisatellite missile took place recently.

The U.S. Administration is completing the preparation of the draft budget for fiscal 1985, which provides for the allocation of at least $305 billion to the Pentagon.

But the White House is also in acute need of "peacemaking" packaging. The electorate's mood is quite contradictory. On the one hand the influence of the massive militarist-chauvinist "brainwashing" is having an effect: The majority of Americans supported the invasion of Grenada. This brainwashing of the population is continuing, to judge by the way the President is speaking in his speeches of his "pride" in the piracy perpetrated in Grenada against a small people and is extolling the Americans "in military uniform" who have perpetrated the shameful piracy in Lebanon and other countries.

On the other hand, there is mounting anxiety in the United States over the White House's bellicosity, which has affected U.S.-Soviet relations, and over the bloodletting in Lebanon and Central America. According to a poll conducted recently by THE WASHINGTON POST and ABC Television, for the first time since the present administration came to power half of all Americans do not approve of its foreign policy, and "even some Reagan supporters fear that his methods of conducting international affairs have increased the danger of war."

The White House is trying to publicize some kind of U.S. economic "revival," speculating on the change in the market situation in connection with the fact that the recent crisis of unprecedented depth and acuteness has nonetheless been replaced on some salients by a more than relative recovery in accordance with the cyclical progress of capitalist economic development.

Right now the situation is such that, according to a Gallup poll, the two leading Democratic Party candidates, who are criticizing the administration's bellicose course quite sharply -- former U.S. Vice President W. Mondale and Senator J. Glenn -- are not inferior to R. Reagan in terms of their popularity among the electorate. And, U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT writes, "to all appearances foreign policy will be the main battlefield in the election campaign."

Dangerous "Light"

The roar of guns in Lebanon, the exchange of fire between the Capitol and the White House in Washington -- that is a brief description of the present state of the Near East seat of war.

When the signing of the separate Camp David deals was solemnized 5 years ago under the red and yellow circus tent canopies in front of the White House, many U.S. observers warned that this was the direct path to "a new Vietnam." But while the Carter administration also tried to use means of political and economic pressure, the present "team" has put everything in its place once and for all.

The signing of the "Memorandum on Mutual Understanding in the Field of Strategic Cooperation" between Washington and Tel Aviv in November 1981, the encouragement of Israel's invasion of Lebanon in the summer of 1982, the deployment of U.S. troops under the flag of the "Multinational Force" first on the Sinai Peninsula and then in Beirut, the Marines' participation, with the U.S. naval armada supporting them, in the hostilities in Lebanon, and, finally, the drawing up of the military-political alliance with Israel late last year -- these are the main milestones of the United States' descent into the quagmire of a "Near East Vietnam." The Reagan plan put forward in September 1982 set the aim of using military force to remove one Arab country after another from the struggle against Israeli aggression and to secure permanent Israeli occupation of the West Bank of the Jordan River, the Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights, and South Lebanon.

Last week's session of the U.S.-Israeli Military Policy Committee served the practical implementation of this course, discussing questions of the consolidation of militarist cooperation between the United States and Israel in Lebanon, with respect to other Near East countries, and even within the framework of the entire Eastern Mediterranean. Washington is trying to drag Israel toward NATO and that bloc toward Israel.

Meanwhile ships of the U.S. Navy's 6th Fleet, on the pretext of the resumption of shooting between the opposing sides in Lebanon, have again come right up to the coast. Washington is threatening to deliver "warning" strikes.

With Washington's support Israel succeeded in dividing Lebanon, seizing its southern part, striking against the Palestinian and Lebanese patriots, and intensifying differences within the Palestinian movement itself and between the Arab countries. There has been a revival of U.S. attempts to persuade the so-called "conservative Arab countries" to steer a capitulationist Reagan-model Camp David course. The Islamic Conference Organization meeting which ended in Casablanca recently took the decision to allow the return of Egypt, expelled in 1979 after it had signed the separate deal with Israel.

But every day brings fresh news of the staunchness of the progressive and patriotic forces in the Arab world. Relying on broad international solidarity, Syria is dealing a resolute rebuff to the invaders and their U.S. occupier-allies. However the imperialists may rampage, a genuine peaceful and overall settlement of the Near East problem is possible only on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all territories they occupy and the implementation of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, right up to the creation of their own independent state.

The aggressors are already reaping bitter fruit, with Israel seeing the aggravation of its economic crisis and the United States lead caskets, a rise in anti-U.S. feeling in the Arab world, and dissatisfaction within the United States itself. Paris and Rome, which have cut back on the size of their contingents in the "Multinational Force," are gradually dissociating themselves from Washington's policy in Lebanon.

As soon as the U.S. legislators met after the recess, this became the main question. "Many people in Congress were shaken by the dimensions of dissatisfaction among the electorate, which is increasingly assessing the Marines' actions in Lebanon as a 'preposterous mission,'" U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT writes. "Many Republicans in Congress admit that they are concerned for their chances of reelection if U.S. troops remain in Lebanon through November."

During the "dirty war" in Vietnam the former U.S. Administration frequently stated that "the light could be seen at the end of the tunnel when the train is bearing down on you." The same can be said of the prospects of Washington's present "Near East Vietnam."

Growing Influence

Working as a correspondent in the American western states of Wyoming, Nebraska, and Texas, I frequently encountered the graffiti "United States out of the United Nations! United Nations out of the United States!" This bellicose provincialism, now Washington's official credo, says a lot, not least about the impotent rage in the face of the growing influence of the developing countries which make up the UN majority.

"It seems truly deplorable to me that a great country like the United States too often adopts positions counter to the positions of small Third World countries." These words were uttered recently in New York. They were spoken by Mahathir bin Mohamed, prime minister of Malaysia, a country which can in no way be considered as radical.

Many developing countries are waging the struggle to overcome their colonial heritage, for economic development, and against economic and political dependence on imperialism in inextricable unity with efforts to avert the threat of nuclear war and curb the arms race. Special mention should be made of the contribution made by India -- a country chosen as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. This great power's successes in the years of independent development are evidence that, despite all the complexities and difficulties, the developing countries are advancing. The voice of India and the other nonaligned states is becoming increasingly important in world affairs.

INTERNATIONAL 'PEACE FORCES' VIENNA MEETING ENDS

LD301407 Moscow TASS in English 1321 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Vienna January 30 TASS -- A consultative meeting of the international liaison forum of the peace forces, attended by delegates of 38 political parties, trade unions and public movements from 26 countires and of a number of international non-governmental organisations, has taken place here. Delegates voiced deep worry over the fact that the threat of nuclear catastrophe had further grown during the past few months as a result of the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in several West European countries. This development ruined the basis for the continuation of the Geneva talks and compelled the USSR and its Warsaw Treaty allies to take counter measures.

A communique released on the results of the meeting says that the threat of nuclear catastrophe has also grown because of the escalation of tension and acts of intervention and aggression in the Middle East, in South Africa, in Central America and in other regions.

There are fresh facts of the gross violation of the principles on which the activities of the United Nations are based.

Actions aimed at discrediting the United Nations, in particular, the U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO, are adding to international tension.

Contrary to the fact that the deployment of new missiles has brought about another dangerous and destabilizing round of the arms race, making the threat of nuclear war worse than ever before, attempts are being made to convince the public that peace has become stronger and securer than at any other time precisely because of the latest arms buildup. Participants in the meeting stated furthermore that the peace movement had responded to the aggravation of the international situation with even stronger actions.

At a time when the problems of disarmament have acquired a global character, the peoples of the world are pinning particularly great hopes on the conference on confidence building measures, and security and disarmament in Europe that is taking place in Stockholm.

The participants in the meeting were unanimous that the positive conclusion of the Stockholm conference was very important. In accordance with the decisions of the second Vienna dialogue, they suggested that an extraordinary representative meetings of political and public organisations and movements be convened in Stockholm in early March.

PALME, ARBATOV ON ROME COMMISSIONS' WORK

LD300259 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 29 Jan 84

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Novosti political observer Gennadiy Gerasimov]

[Excerpts] Last week in Rome, sessions of two independent commissions were held -- one on disarmament and security, called the Palme Commission, and the other on international development, called the Brandt Commission.

Has the work of the commissions made any real contribution to the improvement of the international climate and, correspondingly, to a reduction of the danger of a nuclear war? This was the question our correspondent asked of Swedish Premier Olof Palme.

[Begin Palme recording] One must be a great optimist to hope for a sharp change in this climate. The situation is very complex. The arms race and the danger of the occurrence of war are compounded by the poverty and hunger in many regions of the world. But we have proposals which are capable of improving the state of affairs. The process of siting new missiles must be halted at any cost, and one must sit down and talk. In such difficult moments as now, it is especially important and necessary that all people of good will unite their efforts. [end recording]

At the end of the session a document was adopted, which is commented on by academician Arbatov, a Soviet participant in the work of the commissions.

[Begin Arbatov recording] Both commissions met at a very alarming moment, and this is reflected fairly clearly in the document. It seems to me that this realistic view of the present world and of the difficulties was defined by the work of the commissions. There was, however, a conflict of opinion, various opinions. Nevertheless, this alarm and the consciousness of what has to be done, this was the leitmotif of the speeches and the leitmotif of the work. I think this was reflected in the final document which is designed primarily to show public opinion -- people in Western Europe, the United States and the developing countries -- how they appraise the situation, and it contains a whole number of proposals.

Although in principle all of them are not new, the issue now is not to invent something new.

The issue is to do something concrete in implementing the proposals which are supported by very many people in many countries of the world. And at this level, there is in it a proposal for a moratorium, a moratorium which would be immediately declared by the United States and the Soviet Union on the siting of nuclear arms so as to create favorable conditions for talks on arms limitation, for arms limitation measures, on the need for the conclusion of an immediate treaty on a complete ban on nuclear arms tests, on a ban on chemical weapons, and on doing everything to avert the arms race in space. [end recording]

NONALIGNED INFORMATION MINISTERS HIT WEST'S MEDIA

LD291411 Moscow TASS in English 1344 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Jakarta January 29 TASS -- TASS correspondents Yu. Sagaidak, G. Shmelvov and V. Fedortsov report: Information ministers of non-aligned countries are continuing a conference here. Representatives of Afghanistan, Angola, Ethiopia and other countries levelled scathing criticism in their speeches here at Western news services' policy of neocolonialism with regard to developing states.

The leader of the delegation from the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Aziz Elyasi, said that newly-free countries were the butt of the West's sustained and poisonous propaganda campaign. Along with their armed struggle against revolutionary Afghanistan, world imperialism and other reactionary forces also were mounting a psychological offensive against the Afghan people and revolution. Western mass media floated lies about Afghanistan, distorting the essence of changes there. The imperialist press at the same time, Aziz Elyasi said, was keeping silent about the Afghans' successes. But despite all that the Afghan revolution would continue making progrss, he emphasized.

The conference of information ministers of non-aligned countries, Makaninan Makagiansar, UNESCO deputy director-general for culture, said in a TASS interview, was being held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding. The discussion of a pressing issue of the times, that of establishing a new international information order, he said, accorded with the principles and spirit of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Delegates, he pointed out, had spoken highly of UNESCO which was making a tangible contribution to resolving technical problems encountered by developing countries in the field of information and communications and overcoming the imbalance of the news flow. There was no doubt, Makaninan Makagiansar said, that UNESCO would carry on its activities in that direction notwithstanding impediments created by some countries. The U.S. decision to quit UNESCO was disappointing since it did not correspond to the fundamental principles of that international organization, the idea of international cooperation, the UNESCO representative said.

USSR SUPPORTS' 'NEW INFORMATION ORDER'

LD282359 Moscow TASS in English 1952 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 28 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev writes:

The volume of information coming from the developed capitalist states is one hundred times as large as that coming from the newly-free independent Asian, African and Latin American states.

These figures of UNESCO are cited by Soviet authors Yuriy Kolosov and Boris Tsepov in their book dealing with the efforts by the developing countries to establish a new, fairer and more balanced information order. They point out with good reason that the damage to the developing countries is a result not only of that huge quantitative disproportion, but also of the quality of the flow of information beamed to them.

It must be frankly said that this is a turbid flow. Prevailing in it is such a "commodity", that is marketable from the viewpoint of Western suppliers of information, as reports on military coups, tribal strife and natural calamities in the newly-free states, while the latters' socio-economic achievements are simply hushed up. The spreading of such wantonly tendentious, and at times, provocative information is aimed at arousing mutual dislike and lack of confidence among the developing countries and instilling in the Western man in the street a sense of superiority, disregard and contempt for the "natives".

The natural wish of the developing countries to put an end to the capitalist West's monopoly in their information market is described by Western politologists as almost an encroachment upon the "freedom" of information. It is under the pretext of protection of that "freedom" that the West fiercely opposes any international legal regulation of information exchanges between sovereign states, without which it is unthinkable to establish a new international information order. These false arguments of the West are backed up by a no less false proposition that the international information exchanges, in common with exchanges of commodities, shall be done according to the rules of market trade, without any restrictions.

It is apt to remind the proponents of such "theories" that uncontrolled trade exchanges have never existed and do not exist nowadays, as each state protecting its national interests has established and continues establishing in its territory respective rules regulating the import and export of commodities. Such practices by no means run counter to international law, whose fundamental principle is mutual respect for sovereignty and equality of the participants [words indistinct] international communication.

It shall be also recalled that, as L. Martin, a prominent American expert in the field of mass information, aptly put it, "propaganda has many qualities of gunpowder." But what state concerned with the protection of its sovereignty can allow itself to turn a blind eye to uncontrolled import of explosives, that are clearly designed for undermining its positions and prestige?!

All speculation on the "freedom of information flow", as the West interprets it, is nothing else but an attempt at perpetuating a situation of dependence and domination, under which, as is pointed out in the political declaration of the fifth non-aligned summit conference, most countries are doomed to the role of a passive recipient of biased, incomplete and distorted information. Being guided by political realism, the developing countries proceed from the premise that fair and balanced information exchanges are possible only through effectively ensuring such principles sealed in the U.N. Charter as respect for the sovereignty and right of any country to defence, observance of the equal right and opportunities for all participants in information exchanges, recognition of their responsibility for the spreading of biased and false reports, which are detrimental to the cause of peace, international cooperation and mutual understanding among nations.

Such an approach to the problem of establishment of a new international information order meets with full support from the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community.

SOCIALIST, WESTERN VIEWS OF STOCKHOLM MEETING

LD281257 Moscow TASS in English 1202 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Stockholm January 28 TASS -- TASS correspondents N. Vukolov, P. Konovalov and A. Stepanenko report:

The Stockholm conference on confidence building measures, and security and disarmament in Europe is continuing to discuss proposals advanced by participating states. Much attention was riveted to speeches by representatives of the German Democratic Republic, Poland and Czechoslovakia, who stressed the importance of an indepth examination by the conference of the large-scale measures put forward jointly by socialist countries.

The importance for the nuclear-weapon states to pledge not to make first use of nuclear weapons was stressed particularly. It was pointed out that the Soviet Union has already made this pledge unilaterally. It is now essential that the other nuclear states follow suit.

The conclusion of a treaty on mutual non-use of armed force and maintenance of relations of peace, the representatives of socialist countries said, would also be an important measure. The participating states have no grounds for refusing to sign this treaty because it would provide for renouncing first use of both nuclear and conventional weapons, that is renouncing use of force altogether. The treaty could contain also other important provisions, for example, a pledge by the parties to it to press for an end to the arms race and for disarmament, provisions directed at building trust, developing cooperation and scaling down military confrontation.

Both these proposals are major measures to build confidence and enhance security in the continent. This is especially important now that the deployment of American first-strike nuclear missiles, creating a threat to the USSR and other socialist countries, has begun in a number of West European countries. The dangerous nature of NATO military exercises staged near the borders of Warsaw treaty member states was also pointed out.

NATO countries at the conference made proposals aiming to ensure "openness" in military activities. They, it is pointed out in journalistic circles, are showing interest in locating the positions of armed forces of the Warsaw Treaty member states. In conditions of the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Europe such measures would be patently detrimental to the security of socialist countries. Such proposals, of course, do not meet the tasks of the conference, it is pointed out in the circles of the Stockholm forum. What is needed is important initiatives facilitating stronger trust between countries in political and military fields.

FURTHER COMMENT ON REAGAN REELECTION BID

Zorin on 'Late Start'

LD301650 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 30 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast; Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] President Reagan has announced his intention to stand for the post of head of the United States for a second term in the 1984 elections. Here is Soviet television observer Valentin Zorin:

Hello, comrades. And so, one of the unknowns in the U.S. election equation has been defined -- Ronald Reagan has officially entered the struggle for reelection. According to existing tradition, such an announcement should have been made at the beginning of September. But they were in no hurry in the White House, observing with satisfaction the internecine strife reigning in the opposition Democratic Party; eight of its leaders with ambitions for the presidency have all this time been not so much criticizing the Reagan administration as inflicting blows upon each other. But the chief reason for such a late official start to Reagan's election campaign is something that is carefully concealed among those surrounding him -- alarm about the outcome of the November elections. In the opinion of informed observers, it was this alarm that led to the statement about entering the election fight being held up until the last moment.

If some time ago there was no particular lack of confidence among the top leadership of the Republican Party about the outcome of the election battles, the situation has changed lately, and the reason for this is the growing and ever more clearly emerging fears of the U.S. public in connection with the Reagan government's foreign policy course.

Foreign policy problems could have an even greater effect on the outcome of the elections than economic and other internal problems, specialists assert. In these conditions, before announcing his candidacy, the President intended to present himself to the voters in the role of peacemaker. His widely advertised speech about U.S.-Soviet relations pursued precisely such an aim.

[Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1800 GMT on 30 January in its Vremya newscast carries the Zorin commentary on the foreign policy issue in the U.S. presidential election that here adds: "While speaking about the desirability of a Soviet-American dialogue, Washington is at the same time passing over in deliberate silence the initiatives put forward in Comrade Andropov's replies to PRAVDA and is not replying to the Soviet proposals which are designed to fill such a dialogue with a concrete content."]

The traditional annual State of the Union message which the President addressed to the Congress on the eve of the announcement of his candidacy is also of a preelection character. Well, one can judge the tone of this expansive document by this passage: We think, Reagan stated, that our policy over the past 3 years has made the world a safer place. Just like that, no more, no less. The falsehood of the White House's latest peace-loving statemetns, which are not backed up literally by a single specific step aimed at reducing international tension, is obvious and gives no rise to doubt. But the fact that the current President considered it necessary to enter the election campaign as some kind of peace-lover, which is out of the ordinary for him, is very indicative. It is evidence of new and important processes taking place in the political life of the United States.

Economic Assertions 'Misleading'

LD302348 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 30 TASS -- President Reagan's assertions that the economic situation in the United States radically improved within the three years of his stay in the White House are outright demagogy aimed at misleading the U.S. public. This is patently confirmed by statistical data published by the political committee of the Democratic Party, the data that compare the situation in the economy in January 1981, the first month of the Reagan administration if office, with the situation in December last. The statistical data show that the number of the unemployed in the United States at the end of last year was by one million larger than in January 1981. Industry in the United States was operating at 81.3 percent of its capacity in January 1981 and at 79.4 percent of its capacity in December last. While 227 private enterprises on an average a week went bankrupt in the United States at the beginning of Reagan's Presidency, the index reached 644 privately-owned enterprises by the end of last year.

Promises 'Impossible' To Check

LD310523 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 30 Jan 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Excerpt] President Reagan has officially announced his intention to stand for reelection at the elections that are to take place in November. In a 5-minute television address, Reagan did not say what he plans to propose to the voters. But 4 days ago, Reagan delivered his State of the Union address and it is perfectly legitimate to consider that this address reflects the basic positions of the President's election platform.

Four great aims were proclaimed in Reagan's address. First Reagan promised steady economic growth for the United States and promised to wage a campaign against the federal budget deficit. Then, Reagan painted a bewitching picture of the successes in space the United States will achieve under his leadership. He also spoke of the environment, pledging to protect it.

The range of promises is compiled in such a way that it is virtually impossible to check that they are being fulfilled, in any case for the coming 4 years.

The federal budget deficit: Well, even given the most favorable circumstances, according to official statistics the deficit will still remain at a sum of $122 billion even in 1989. The space program is hardly likely to be implemented even by the 21st century in the form Reagan has presented it. Environmental protection? Ten-year and even half-century terms are in fact measured off by nature itself. The Messiah, in whose guise Reagan wants to appear to the voters, has, as emerges from the State of the Union address, brought paradise to U.S. soil -- but not so close to Americans alive today for them to be able to expose the deception.

Reelection Will Not Be 'Easy'

LD302155 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 30 Jan 84

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vyacheslav Lavrentyev]

[Text] I now wish to touch upon an event that took place on Sunday in Washington.

President Reagan announced from the White House Oval Office that he has decided to run for reelection as head of state for a second term. This news was expected and did not especially surprise anyone, although Democratic Party candidates started their election struggle as far back as the end of last year.

People think that Reagan delayed his official participation in the election campaign for tactical reasons. It is true that from time to time he gave very clear hints. In September of last year for example, during a meeting with members of his Republican Party he said: We can and will work together for victory. In October he ordered the creation of an election committee, and later in many of his speeches Reagan spoke as a man who did not intend to leave the White House this year.

In his Sunday speech, the President alternated words of self-glorification with compliments to the so-called average American who, as the President emphasized, has helped him to exalt America again. As has often happened when the President has had to defend his adventuristic plans against Nicaragua and Grenada and in the Near East, he appealed to American's nationalist feelings, playing on chauvinistic emotions. Reagan said that he is putting forward his candidature in the hope that electors will allow him to complete that which was started 3 years ago. This was, in brief, a typical speech aimed at the electors.

Analyzing the baggage that Reagan has brought with him to this point, observers think that he will have to withstand a powerful fire of criticism from Democratic opponents on internal problems, and above all on the problem of the huge budget deficit. At one time the White House promised to balance the budget, but has itself brought the country to a deficit of $200 billion.

The incumbent President's foreign policy course will come in for even harsher criticism. A recently conducted poll shows that two out of five Americans think that the danger of a nuclear war rose sharply during Reagan's time; 52 percent of those canvassed do not approve of Reagan's policies in the Near East; 48 percent have a very negative view of Washington's actions in Central America. In a word, the election marathon which ends with voting on 6 November does not promise to be an easy one for the Republican Party's candidate for the Presidency.

Campaign Appearances Viewed

LD281444 Moscow World Service in English 0001 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] President Reagan has plunged into a round of election campaign appearances in advance of his formal reelection announcement due on Sunday. On Thursday he addressed a supportive crowd in Atlanta saying that the spirit of America is strong and the future of America is great. He also stressed that under his leadership the nation had come too far, struggled too hard, and accomplished too much to turn back now.

Americans are kept on a steady diet of unprecedented achievements of the administration. Even some of the things that a year or even 6 months ago were widely discussed as failures or setbacks are now presented as feathers in the President's cap. A budget deficit, the homeless, the erosion of human rights, tighter censorship, the widening gap between the poor and the rich, and other issues are treated now as being taken care of by the President and other officials.

Inept policymakers in the administration who were sharply criticized for not being able to conduct a sound foreign policy in the Middle East, Central America, and in Europe are now portrayed as a wise team who under the guidance of Ronald Reagan have scored numerous successes.

Everybody seems to be talking now about prosperity, security, and freedom. These days few recall how the press was gagged during the American invasion of Grenada. Encouraged by Reagan's successful onslaught on the much-vaunted freedom of the press, Major Dennis Brooks, spokesman for the Marines in Beirut, yesterday announced new guidelines limiting press access to their base. Kept on a tight leash, the free press fails to report some very unpleasant things. What are they?

Well, it is not true that America is more secure under the Republican administration than it was several years ago. First of all national security cannot be measured in terms of the number of weapons it possesses or intends to produce. In this modern age national security is linked with the overall international situation. In the view of Soviet leaders, and not only Soviet, it has reached one of the lowest points ever. Not a single set of Soviet-American talks is in progress. The American deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe made it impossible for the Soviet Union to take part in the Geneva talks on nuclear arms in Europe. What is more, this nation has been compelled to begin the deployment of similar weapons off American shores. They will match the American Perhsing and cruise missles in accuracy, yield, and flight time to target. In other words they will make U.S. territory as vulnerable as the Soviet Union's is following the American deployment in Western Europe.

The Republican administration has put the situation in the world on a hair trigger. But this is never reported by the American press or mentioned in the President's speeches before supportive crowds or in his radio and TV addresses to the nation. And it is very clear why. If this fact had ever been brought home to the American people people, it would have aroused quite a different reaction to the so-called achievements of the Reagan administration in foreign policy. There would have been much less bragging about America's security than there is at present.

Is the memory of Americans so short that a month-long drumbeat about all sorts of administration achievements and successes made them forget what their leaders had said and done in the not-so-distant past?

Administration officials kept saying that a nuclear war was winnable. They said that America should be prepared to wage both a limited and a protracted nuclear war. Today the same people are talking about peace and a constructive working relationship with the Soviet Union. There are several Pentagon documents which not only reject any accomodation and peaceful coexistence with the Soviet Union but also urge the militarization of outer space. They are known as "Fiscal 1984-88 and 1985-89 Defense Guidance." And when a cabinet member signs a plan, document, or a program it means that it will be carried out. In other words the administration is well on the path for a potential confrontation with the Soviet Union not a peaceful competition.

True, America is strong but the trouble is that no nation is strong enough not to be completely destroyed in a nuclear war nor can it be. True America is rich and prosperous but at the same time it puts up with over 35 million people living below the subsistance level. The Republican administration promises it will make the nation even more prosperous. Will it be at the price of an even larger number of people going hungry and poor? At the end of last year President Reagan declared that even one American going hungry is one too many. He no longer says this in his campaign speeches. Why should he if there is not a single hungry or a homeless among the supportive crowds he addresses?

JAPAN'S ABE CONFERS WITH TOP U.S. LEADERS

LD280822 Moscow TASS in English 0735 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 28 TASS -- President Reagan has held talks at the White House with visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

Both that meeting and the Japanese minister's talks with Secretary of State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger focused on ways of extending and intensifying bilateral strategic military cooperation. According to informed observers, the American side insisted on a bigger than earlier planned increase in Japanese military spending. Another issue discussed at the talks in Washington is increasingly sharp contradictions between the two countries in the trade and economic sphere.

'Military Cooperation' Focus

LD281454 Moscow TASS in English 1252 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 28 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksander Shalyenev reports: President Ronald Reagan and Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, who is staying here on a working visit, have held negotiations in the White House.

Both that meeting and the Japanese foreign minister's talks with Secretary of State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger focused on ways of extending and intensifying bilateral strategic military cooperation, including specific measures to implement the accords which were reached in this field during Reagan's visit to Japan last year and which are aimed at converting the Pacific into a staging area for aggressions against independent countries.

As is known, Japan has been assigned in the framework of this cooperation the role of a watchdog to ensure the interests of the United States and the West as a whole in its region. According to the Pentagon's plans, Japan is, in particular, to assume control over sea and air lanes within 1,000 miles from its shores. A highly-placed U.S. Administration official made it clear in a conversation with journalists that Washington hopes that Japanese Armed Forces will be ready to perform such functions as early as next year. This is why the American side at the talks with Abe insisted on a bigger increase of the Japanese military budget. The nearly seven-per-cent increase planned by the Nakasone government does not suit the Pentagon.

It was announced that discussed during Abe's visit to Washington also were issues of nuclear arms control. This wording, however, conceals the U.S. Administration's attempts at forcing Tokyo into finally renouncing the so-called "non-nuclear principles" so that it will become possible for the United States to openly deploy nuclear weapons in the Japanese isles. A recent Pentagon report bluntly described Japan as a suitable candidate for hosting American nuclear-tipped cruise missiles.

The talks in Washington also are dealing with American-Japanese trade relations which are marked by sharp contradictions. The U.S. Commerce Department has just published another stastical bulletin which says that the U.S. balance of payments deficit in trade with Japan last year reached a record 22 billion dollars.

But all indications are that neither Washington nor Tokyo expect to reconcile or even blunt these contradictions. White House spokesmen said right after Abe's meeting with Reagan that the only thing they had been able to agree upon was that it was necessary to exert every effort to ensure progress in that direction.

U.S. 'CORRECTION' ON JAPAN NUCLEAR VISITS SCORED

LD272150 Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS -- TASS commentator Vladimir Kuchko writes:

Washington informed Tokyo of its intention to rectify "errors" in data published in the U.S. on American subs with nuclear weapons on board calling on Japanese ports. Earlier this month the Japanese newspaper ASAHI reported that the booklet "American Naval Fighting Ships", published by the U.S. Department of the Navy, cites facts confirming that U.S. subs with nuclear weapons on board have called at the Japanese port of Yokosuka where the Seventh U.S. Fleet has a base.

And although the publication mentioned only some cases of such calls in the past, this proved more than sufficient to cause outrage in Japan. Opposition parties demanded that the Nakasone cabinet give explanations as to new facts of U.S. nuclear weapons being brought into the country's territory despite official Tokyo's protestations of its commitment to the three "non-nuclear principles" -- not to possess, not to bring in and not to manufacture nuclear weapons. Still smarting after the serious setback at the recent parliamentary elections, the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party's leadership found itself in a very difficult position. The fact is that the booklet in question is an official document of a U.S. Government department which possesses all the data on the activities of the U.S. Navy.

And Washington officials decided to bail out Prime Minister Nakasone, a "personal friend of President Reagan", and to put a good face on it. A State Department spokesman said that "an error had crept in" the publication, since the nuclear missiles in question were, allegedly, not intended for combat use.

The correction introduced into the publication does not signify any changes in the real U.S. policy of saturating Japan and its contiguous waters with nuclear weapons. Washington's assertions that its allegedly takes "an attitude of understanding" to the Japanese Government's officially proclaimed "non-nuclear principles" have been repeatedly refuted by U.S. politicians and military experts, including former U.S. President James Carter, former U.S. Ambassador to Tokyo Edwin Reishchauer, retired Rear Admiral Gene Larocque and others.

According to Willian Arkin, director of a research programme in the field of nuclear weapons of the U.S. Institute of Policy Studies, practically all the Pentagon facilities on the Japanese islands are included in the preparations for global and regional conflicts involving the potential use of weapons of mass destruction. Next June will see the start of equipping the Seventh U.S. Fleet vessels based in Japanese ports with nuclear-tipped "Tomahawk" cruise missiles.

The corrections announced by Washington will hardly be found convincing by the Japanese who were the first to experience U.S. atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as indications of "peaceable" intentions of the U.S. Administration.

Public opinion polls indicate that an overwhelming majority of the country's population do not believe Washington's and Tokyo's assurances that there are no nuclear weapons in the U.S. military bases in Japan.

JAPAN SET AS U.S. 'ACCOMPLICE' ON SPACE STATION

LD272022 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

Japan, which is being increasingly involved in the Pentagon's nuclear missile strategy, intends to become the United States' accomplice also in the arms race in space. The Japanese press reports today that Japan's science and technology agency has decided to take part in the joint work with the United States to create a space station which is being designed on the Pentagon's order. 300 billion yen is allocated for the purpose. President of the United States Ronald Reagan asserted in the State of the Union message that the setting up of this station will result in a qualitative leap in outer space. But many experts in the United States and in other countries hold that that programme is aimed above all at the achievement of the United States' military superiority.

It is common knowledge that U.S. space projects mainly pursue military purposes. The flights of the space shuttle are an example.

THE NEW YORK TIMES admits that these flights are part of the Pentagon's large-scale programme for the creation of anti-satellite weapons.

The anti-satellite ASAT system designed for the destruction of targets in near-earth orbit was tested in the United States the other day. This test is new evidence of Washington's striving to spread the arms race to outer space. The United States wishes to involve its closest allies in this dangerous undertaking, is striving to make them shoulder part of financial outlays connected with the project and to make them direct accomplices in the militarisation of outer space.

Contrary to Japan's officially proclaimed policy of refraining from the export of armaments, Tokyo and Washington have already reached agreement on the transfer to the United States of the latest Japanese technology which the Pentagon intends to use for the creation of qualitatively new weapon systems, including space weapons.

An even more serious and dangerous step is being taken now. It is quite apparent what danger looms over mankind if weapons are used in space or from space against the earth.

It should be noted that the Soviet Union last year suggested that the United States a moratorium on the launchings of anti-satellite weapons. But Washington ignored that proposal. Back in 1981 the Soviet Union advanced an initiative in the United Nations for the conclusion of a treaty banning the emplacement of weapons of any type in space. At the 38th session of the United Nations General Assembly the Soviet initiative constituted the core of the resolution on the need to take effective measures for the prevention of the arms race in space. That time, too, the United States declared against the resolution, thus confirming its militaristic course once more.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-DRA ACCORD HAILED

USSR Greetings to DRA

PM271600 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 84 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Soltan Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers

Esteemed Comrade Soltan Ali Keshtmand!

On the occasion of the signing of the first agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Afghanistan we convey to you and to all the Afghan people cordial congratulations and best wishes.

The agreement signed on 27 January 1954 was an important milestone in the history of relations between our countries which V.I. Lenin saw born. It laid a sound basis for fruitful Soviet-Afghan economic and technical cooperation based on the principles of genuine equality, mutual advantage and good-neighborliness.

As a result of Soviet-Afghan economic and technical cooperation a whole series of major industrial enterprises and other facilities has been constructed in Afghanistan for leading economic sectors such as the power and gas industries, transport, irrigation and agriculture and housing construction and a considerable number of highly skilled Afghan workers and technical engineering personnel have been trained.

Guided by the 5 December 1978 treaty on friendship, good-neighborliness and cooperation between the USSR and the DRA, the Soviet Union will continue to constantly support the Afghan people's efforts to implement progressive socioeconomic transformations and strengthen and develop the national economy.

We express confidence that friendship and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan will continue to develop successfully in the future for the good of our countries' peoples.

The USSR Council of Ministers

DRA Greetings to USSR

PM271529 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 84 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

Esteemed Nikolay Aleksandrovich!

In connection with the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first Afghan-Soviet agreement on economic and technical cooperation we convey to the Soviet Government and the entire fraternal Soviet people heartiest congratulations and best wishes.

Afghan-Soviet ties, which were founded when the great Lenin was alive, are a glittering example of equal, mutually advantageous, good-neighborly relations between countries. The industrial, transport, power industry, agricultural and irrigation facilities which have been created in Afghanistan with the Soviet Union's assistance are the basis of the country's state sector and represent a sound and reliable basis for its further development on the path of social progress. The Soviet Union's economic assistance and cooperation are of great importance for the strengthening of Afghanistan's independence, the improvement of the Afghan working people's living standard and the successful solution of problems of training national cadres.

Since the 1978 April Revolution, relations between the DRA and the Soviet Union have risen to a new level and have become relations of genuinely fraternal friendship, all-round fruitful cooperation and revolutionary solidarity. New opportunities for the even broader development of ties have opened up in the economic sphere as well. At present economic cooperation with the Soviet Union is a very important factor in the development of the DRA national economy and in the creation of conditions for conducting progressive democratic and social transformations in the interests of broad strata of the population. The Afghan people will always remember with gratitude the great Soviet people's selfless fraternal assistance.

We express firm confidence that relations of unbreakable friendship, fraternity and all-round cooperation between the DRA and the Soviet Union will continue to strengthen and develop in the interests of our countries' peoples and for the good of peace and security the world over.

The DRA Council of Ministers

Kabul Meeting Held

LD290035 Moscow TASS in English 2242 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Kabul January 28 TASS -- A celebration has been held in the capital of Democratic Afghanistan today on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first Soviet-Afghan agreement on economic and technical cooperation.

Addressing representatives of the public, S. Mangal, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, pointed out the great importance of that agreement for the country's socio-economic and cultural development. Over the past years, he said, new factories, educational establishments, motor roads, irrigation systems, electric power stations and grain elevators have been built in Afghanistan with the Soviet Union's economic and technical assistance.

The agreement of 1954, S. Mangal stressed, has laid a reliable foundation for bilateral cooperation, created a possibility for strengthening the country's economy and increasing the number of jobs. More than 75,000 skilled workers have been trained at the Soviet-Afghan cooperation projects. Our people, S. Mangal said, is expressing deep gratitude to the Soviet people, the CPSU and the Soviet Government for the fraternal, disinterested internationalist aid.

S. Mangal strongly criticized the actions of the imperialist and reactionary circles waging an undeclared war against the Afghan revolution.

Despite the fact that counter-revolutionary gangs are armed with weapons, which are supplied on a large scale from the NATO countries, and get enormous financial aid from them, imperialism is unable to sidetrack us from the road on which we embarked. On the side of the Afghan people are all progressive forces of the world. Reaction is unable to reverse the course of history. The aggression against Grenada, the threats of the U.S. Administration against Nicaragua and Cuba, the imperialist conspiracies in the Middle East and in other areas of the world cannot halt the powerful revolutionary process, S. Mangal stressed.

Ryabov Speaks in Moscow

LD271844 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS -- Economic cooperation is an important part of the entire range of traditional friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for External Economic Relations Yakov Ryabov said here today. He spoke at a celebration meeting in Moscow devoted to the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first agreement in the period after the Second World War between the two countries on economic and technical cooperation.

The significance of ths document goes far beyond the framework of bilateral relations, said the chairman of the USSR State Committee for External Economic Relations. This was the first agreement signed by the Soviet Union with a developing country in the post-war period. The USSR now has inter-governmental agreements on economic and technical cooperation with more than 70 developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan has become many faceted over the past years, Yakov Ryabov said. Under agreements concluded by the two countries it is planned to build in Afghanistan about 190 various economic projects with Soviet technical assistance. More than 90 out of them have already been completed and went into operation.

The Soviet Union is invariably building its relations with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on an equitable mutually-advantageous basis. Afghanistan supplies the Soviet Union with carbamide, (?gas), cotton, its various staple exports. The volume of trade between the two countries more than trebled in the past five years.

The enemies of the Afghan revolution are trying to hamper the further widening of cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, stage acts of subversion at jointly built projects. But they are unable to arrest the course of history. The revolution is developing in Afghanistan and this process is irreversible above all for the reason that the Afghan people has the support and solidarity of the Soviet Union, of other socialist countries, of the progressive forces of the whole world, Yakov Ryabov said in conclusion.

Fertilizer Plant Praised

PM271557 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 January 1984 First Edition carries on page 5 a 900-word report from Kabul by PRAVDA's own correspondent V. Baykov entitled "New Building in Mazare-e Sharif." The dispatch is pegged to the 30th anniversary of the Soviet-Afghan cooperation treaty and describes the fruits of economic cooperation in the shape of a visit he made to a fertilizer plant near Mazar-e Sharif.

Talking about cooperation in economic and other spheres, Baykov concludes by saying: "This cooperation is of tremendous significance for the DRA, especially at a time when the young republic is facing serious economic difficulties as a result of the Western countries' boycott. As is known, under pressure from the United States and its allies many Western firms have announced various sanctions against the DRA and have stopped meeting agreements that had already been signed, which has done considerable damage to the Afghan national economy.

"The traditions of Soviet-Afghan friendship have stood the test of time. Cooperation between our countries is developing successfully in various sectors and in various spheres for the benefit of our peoples."

AFGHANISTAN APPROVES LOCAL ADMINISTRATION BILL

LD290006 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 28 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Kabul: The PDPA Central Committee Politburo has examined and approved a bill on local organs of state power by the people's masses in the creation of local organs of state power and administration. The adoption of this law at the forthcoming extraordinary session of the Revolutionary Council, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the republic, said at the session, will become one of the most important political events in the life of the Afghan people and society.

RETURNING TRIBES PLEDGE 'SUPPORT' TO DRA

PM261930 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Return Home"]

[Text] Kabul, 25 Jan -- The (Baburi) and Mirakhayl tribes have returned to the Afghan Provice of Jowzjan from Pakistani territory. Their chiefs and elders have assured the DRA's revolutionary leadership of their support and readiness to defend the gains of the April Revolution. In all over the past few months tens of thousands of Afghan citizens who left the country under the influence of false counterrevolutionary propaganda have returned home.

ANTIGOVERNMENT 'GANGS' IN DRA 'ELIMINATED'

PM251458 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jan 84 Second Edition p 1

[TASS dispatch: "Attacks on Counterrevolutionaries"]

[Text] Kabul, 24 Jan -- Democratic Afghanistan's security forces, with the active support of detachments for the defense of the revolution, continue attacks on gangs of counterrevolutionaries infiltrated from outside. As the BAKHTAR agency reported, as a result of successful operations in Qonduz and Paktia Provinces, counterrevolutionary groups which terrorized the local population, set fire to schools and mosques, and mined highways and bridges, have been eliminated. Some of the criminals have been taken prisoner.

DYMSHITS ATTENDS INDIAN ACCORD ANNIVERSARY FETE

Leaves Moscow

LD281407 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] A Soviet Government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Veniamin Dymshits has left for India. It will attend festivities held on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of putting into operation the smelting plant at Bhilai, built with Soviet technical assistance.

Stops Over in Tashkent

GF281518 Tashkent Domestic Service in Russian 1315 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Comrade Dymshits, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is leading the Soviet state delegation heading for the Republic of India, stopped over in Tashkent today. At Tashkent airport, Comrade Dymshits and the members of the delegation accompanying him were received by Comrade Usmankhodhayev, first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee; Comrade Khudayberdyyev, chairman of the Presidium of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Mikhaylov, first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Uzbek Council of Ministers; Comrade (Tkhanin), deputy chairman of [words indistinct]; and other officials.

Arrives, Speaks in India

LD292112 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Festivities to mark the 20th anniversary of the commissioning of the metallurgical works, the first example of Soviet-Indian cooperation, are opening in the young Indian town of Bhilai. The head of the Soviet Government delegation, Comrade Dymshits, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, stated on arrival in Delhi that Bhilai is not only a large-scale metallurgical works built in a short time in a region of India that was at that time a desert; Bhilai is also the start of India's industrial development and a symbol of inviolable Soviet-Indian friendship and cooperation. This cooperation, based upon mutual respect and equality, Comrade Dymshits noted, is growing for the wealth of the peoples of India and the Soviet Union and for the wealth of peace on earth. The friendship between our two great peoples is becoming stronger and developing in all aspects of political, economic, and cultural cooperation, in the name of peace and security throughout the world. Soviet people rejoice in every success of peace-loving India and in the growth of its international importance. The head of the Soviet Government delegation conveyed cordial wishes to the people and Government of India from the leaders of the Soviet state and from Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov personally.

GILASHVILI, OTHERS AT MOSCOW INDIAN CELEBRATION

PM271543 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "'Friendly India' Holiday"]

[Text] The friendly relations between the USSR and India, which are strengthening with each year, meet the fundamental interests of both countries' peoples and are an important factor in strengthening world peace.

This was noted at a meeting of representatives of the public in Moscow on 25 January to mark Republic Day -- India's national holiday. It was held as part of the 10-day festival of Soviet-Indian friendship taking place in our country.

The keynote speaker, N.V. Goldin, president of the Soviet-Indian Friendship Society and USSR minister, emphasized that Soviet people are sincerely delighted by India's successes in the economic and social transformation of the country. He said that the Soviet-Indian Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation reliably serves as a sound foundation for good-neighborly relations. Through the successes achieved in their mutual ties the USSR and India are making a substantial contribution to strengthening peace and broad international cooperation.

S. Nurul Hasan, Indian ambassador to the USSR, said that the deepening cooperation between the two states is mutually beneficial in nature and that friendly relations in all spheres of life are even firmer.

P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, V.E. Dymshits, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the leaders of a number of ministries and departments took part in the meeting.

INDIA'S ADVANCES, 'UNSOLVED PROBLEMS' VIEWED

PM271530 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Akhmedzyanov dispatch: "Indian Rhythm" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] A new own correspondent of IZVESTIYA -- Ashraf Akhmedzyanov -- has started work in India. We are publishing his dispatch from Delhi.

The campaign of struggle against poverty, conducted by the central government and ruling Indian National Congress (Indira) Party, has been welcomed in different ways in India. The poorest sections of the population have welcomed it with a sense of gratitude, but the political opposition view it with irony -- as an election maneuver. However, the rightness of this campaign, in a country where more than 40 percent of the population of 282 million people is below the so-called poverty line, can scarcely be doubted.

The Indian press has been talking for several years now about the "problem village." This refers to villages which live in poverty, without schools, hospitals, or even policemen. Four years ago there were 230,000 such villages in the country. In 1984 there are 96,000 fewer "problem villages." The struggle against poverty -- helping the poorest sections of the population and representatives of the most backward castes and tribes on a special list -- occupies an important place on the 20-point development program advanced by Indira Gandhi.

Last year was a fruitful year throughout the country. According to preliminary data, 142 million metric tons of grain was gathered, which is 11 million metric tons more than in the highly productive 1982.

All these successes, however, are just a start. The Indian countryside is in need of profound transformations -- both social and economic.

One of India's acutest problems is overpopulation. Around 700 million people currently live in the country, and the population increases annually by 2.1 percent, or 14-15 million people.

By the year 2000, it will reach 1 billion people. The central government is carrying out a "family planning program" everywhere, so that population growth does not exceed food production growth. Contraceptive means are being widely propagandized and people are being persuaded to undergo sterilization...However, you cannot yet talk of success in India's family planning. The traditions safeguarded by religion are still too strong in the countryside. And indeed children's help with work still determines a great deal in a peasant family's situation and not every household can manage without them.

The great Asian power is faced with many still unsolved problems. However, its achievements on the path to a better future are indisputable. Suffice it to recall that yesterday's colony is today's exporter of heavy industry and machine-building products and power equipment, including powerful hydroturbines. India has a highly developed network of scientific research institutes, its scientists have received universal recognition, and some of them are Nobel Prizewinners.

All these successess of independent India are indissolubly linked with its economic cooperation with the USSR. Speaking in December at the eighth session of the Soviet-Indian Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, India's External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao noted that between the construction of the first Soviet-Indian cooperation project -- the Bhilai Metallurgical Combine -- in the fifties and the start of construction of the new giant of Indian ferrous metallurgy in Visakhapatnam, more than 70 major industrial installations have been created on Indian soil with the USSR's assistance.

Cooperation with the Soviet Union plays a very important role in developing key sectors in India's economy, such as the power industry, the steel industry, machine building, and oil extraction and refining.

The session we are talking of, examined proposals on new avenues of cooperation between our countries for the period through the year 2000. There are no similar examples in the history of international relations. It is proof of the really tremendous mutual trust which exists between the two countries.

Soviet-Indian cooperation is not limited to the economic sphere. The two friendly countries actively cooperate in the international arena. Their positions on key questions of international policy are close or identical. They are united in the struggle to ensure peace and avert the threat of a new war, they actively condemn the arms race, and they strive to save mankind and eliminate the danger of nuclear missile catastrophe. Everybody in India -- from the famous scientist to the street trader or rickshaw driver in old Delhi -- knows about the joint efforts of the Soviet Union and India in the struggle for peace and the peoples' security.

...I sit by the window. It is a fine winter's day. The sun is at its zenith. The green branch of a silky acacia hangs over a "sacred" cow frozen into immobility. Slowly, bending her shapely form, a girl in a light blue sari goes past with a huge brass jug on her head. A very neat, dark-complexioned policeman cycles past. Peace. It is so out of keeping with the big loud newspaper headlines: "Extremists in Punjab Overturn Bus, Kill Two," "Pakistani Saboteur Caught Near Jammu," and "Separatists Set Fire to Village in Assam."

Some people have an interest in maintaining a constant threat to India's unity. India's peace-loving stance and the anti-imperialist thrust of Indira Gandhi's policy give some people no rest. People in the West dream of an India that is weak and disunited.

India's prime minister has stressed more than once the presence of a "foreign hand" at work in the states of Punjab and Assam which are in the grip of local unrest. The right-wing opposition is actively cooperating with local forces. With the West's support, extremist and nationalist forces are using caste, religious, and community enmity at the local level and the complexity of relations between certain categories of the population in the struggle against the central government. Though it is causing the country tremendous damage, this unrest cannot push it from its chosen path.

The 77th Indian National Congress (Indira) Party Congress, held on the eve of the New Year in Calcutta, advanced the slogan "Go to the people". The congress spoke of the need to familiarize the people with the party's program, designed to improve the material position of the lowest sections of society and strengthen the economy as a whole. The congress paid particularly great attention to strengthening the country's national unity and exposing the hostile activity of the separatist forces which are undermining this.

Indira Gandhi's government is appealing to the opposition parties not to confine themselves merely to criticizing the center but to cooperate with them in the struggle to resolve the country's urgent tasks.

What will the New Year bring for India -- the last year before the next parliamentary elections? Indian patriots hope that it will be a year of strengthening the country's national unity and at the same time of new successes in economic development. India's friends share these hopes.

INDIA-PAKISTAN TALKS DUCK 'KEY' ARMS ISSUES

LD292142 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Viktor Sivakov commentary]

[Excerpts] Two important sets of talks have simultaneously taken place between India and Pakistan in the capitals of the two countries. Subcommissions on information, education, tourism, culture, and sports met in Delhi. Trade was the subject of talks in Islamabad. During the talks, Indian newspapers and leaders repeatedly spoke about issues that remained outside the agenda. It is widely believed that these issues are of primary importance for the state of the political climate on the subcontinent. These include the possible ramifications of the continued supplies of advanced American-made offensive weapons to Islamabad.

No stretch of the imagination can class F-16 fighter bombers, Harpoon sea-based rockets, warships, and tanks as a contribution to good-neighborly relations. They typify an overtly negative tendency. After all, bristling guns are no use in dealing with good neighbors, and of course, F-16 fighter bombers are not designed to carry commercial cargo, but take nuclear weapons to targets. The weekly BLITZ sees a direct link between the growing number of armed provocations along the demarcation line separating the Pakistani-occupied part of the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir from the rest of the country, and the presence of some 350,000 Pakistani troops in the area. It is a known fact that the Pakistani troops, amassed close to Indian territory, are supplied with offensive American weapons.

The Indian prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, noted in an interview with the ASSOCIATED PRESS that Pakistan's military preparations are far in excess of its defense needs.

Indeed, the scope of American military supplies to Pakistan is incompatable with good-neighborly relations. Moreover, Washington has made arms supplies to Pakistan conditional on how far Islamabad will be responsive to its needs. Washington is seeking what it calls strategic consensus from Islamabad. This means that Pakistan should agree to American strategic bases on its territory, to the regional headquarters of the U.S. Central Command being stationed in Pakistan, and to the participation of Pakistani troops in punitive operations, together with the rapid deployment force controlled by the command. Washington spearheads them at no less than 19 Afro-Asian countries and the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The NATIONAL HERALD has described the latest moves by the American Administration as an escalation of war against the developing countries. According to the NATIONAL HERALD, the United States does not want them to forget the American claim to the effect that nonalignment is immoral. The fact that India is the current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, a movement that speaks out from anti-imperialist positions, determines some aspects of Washington's policy in South Asia. Washington regards Islamabad's military regime, which has sacrificed the country's sovereignty and the interests of good-neighborliness to United States needs, as a model of relations with nonaligned countries.

By all indications, Washington's pressure has been responsible for Islamabad's continued unwillingness to undertake commitments which would help remove principle stumbling blocks in the way of good-neighborly relations. Among other things, Islamabad refuses to declare in any contractual, (?formal level) of relations with India that the two countries will not enter into military alliance and allow military bases on their territories. So far, Pakistan's position on these key Indian proposals does not call for optimism. This in turn does not auger well for a long-term normalization of relations with India on the principles of peaceful coexistence. However, the significance of the recent Indo-Pakistani talks in Delhi and Islamabad should not be belittled. They point the way for a solution of any problems, namely a dialogue with due account of the interests of the partners.

INDIAN PAPER HITS PAKISTAN ANTI-INDIA 'ATTACKS'

LD271359 Moscow TASS in English 1316 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] New Delhi January 27 TASS -- The military regime of Islamabad has sent out to its diplomatic representatives abroad instructions that they should step up their attacks at the peaceable foreign policy pursued by India in the international arena and circulate rumours about India's alleged "aggressiveness" towards Pakistan, the newspaper NATIONAL HERALD reports today.

One of the goals of Islamabad's present-day propaganda offensive is to distract by means of this sordid manoeuvre the attention of the people of Pakistan from the stubborn struggle for the granting of democratic rights and freedoms, which it is waging against the Ziaul Haq military administration. While stepping up the scale of anti-Indian provocations, the Pakistani rulers hope at the same time to justify in the eyes of the world public and of their own people the unprecedented build-up of Pakistan's military might through the latest U.S.-made weapons and the turning of Pakistan into an obedient tool of the United States strategy in the Indian Ocean basin and the Persian Gulf zone.

The local political observers point out that the latest propaganda campaign against India has been sanctioned by Washington, which is unhappy about the anti-imperialist trend of India's foreign policy. The Indian press and statesmen have condemned Islamabad's decision to allow the U.S. Air Force to use Pakistan's airfields and set up in the country's territory U.S. military bases with the Pentagon's assistance as well as the single American-Pakistani system for control of the Pakistani Air Force codenamed "C-3".

The strengthening of the Washington-Islamabad militaristic alliance destabilises the situation in South and South-West Asia, stresses the booklet on Pakistan's military preparations, which was issued by the All-India committee of the ruling Indian National Congress (1) Party. The military ties between the USA and Pakistan are the main sourse of tensions in the South Asian subcontinent, is says.

GANDHI ASKS 'NEW' INFORMATION ORDER AT JAKARTA

LD271056 Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] New Delhi January 27 TASS -- India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has called for stepping up efforts aimed at eliminating discrimination of the developing states in the field of information. In a message issued here to the participants in the non-aligned information ministers' conference, which opened in Jakarta, the Indian prime minister, who is the chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, pointed out that the establishment of a new international order in the field of information exchanges and communication accords with the interests of a closer economic and technical cooperation between the non-aligned and other states of the world.

The efforts by the non-aligned states to set up new information agencies such as information pools and radio broadcasting organizations are a component part of their struggle for establishing a new international order based on justice and equality. Indira Gandhi stressed.

USSR-BANGLADESH TIES REVIEWED ON ANNIVERSARY

LD281918 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] It is 12 years this week since the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Bangladesh established diplomatic relations. Our commentary has been prepared by Mikhail Vladimirov:

The establishment of diplomatic relations was a landmark on the way of promoting relations between the Soviet Union and Bangladesh, but their foundation was laid in 1971 when the people of Bangladesh fought for freedom and independence. It's generally recognized that the Soviet Union played a big role in that struggle and in the final victory of the people of Bangladesh. It gave them large-scale support on the world scene and it gave them impressive material help. In the final stage of the national liberation movement, when victory was already close, the United States sent ships of the seventh fleet to the Bay of Bengal. America wanted to intimidate the people of Bangladesh and make them give up the struggle. Nothing came of it because of the Soviet Union's firm and decisive position. It was the Soviet Union that energetically acted in the United Nations and outside it against that police move.

The significance of Soviet support to the national liberation movement was appraised by the Bangladesh prime minister, Mujibur Rahman, who visited this country soon after the republic came into being. The people of Bangladesh have not forgotten the friendly support they received form the Soviet people in troubled times. The well-known Bangladesh journalist Gupta says in the paper NATUN BANGLA that thanks to the USSR attempts to strangulate the young republic were frustrated. When the war for liberation ended the national flag of Bangladesh was raised over the presidential palace in Dhaka, the young state set itself the task of restoring the war ravaged economy and consolidating its international positions. Again help came from the Soviet Union. the USSR agreed to help Bangladesh restore the economy, railways and sea-fishing and build a number of economic facilities.

A Soviet seamen's exploit, this is how the people of Bangladesh described the help in restoring the port of Chittagong and clearing it of mines and sunken ships. Soviet seamen swept about 600 square miles of port water and brought up 26 ships. Soviet helicopter pilots too worked selflessly in Bangladesh; they delivered food to remote regions and Soviet doctors, together with their Bangladesh colleagues, combatted cholera epidemics.

In 1976 Bangladesh commissioned the Ghorasal thermal power station, which was built with Soviet economic and technical assistance. In 1978 a factory went into operation in Chittagong to turn out electrical appliances. The two nations successfully develop trade. Every year the Soviet Union delivered diesel oil, cotton, pig iron, cement and machine tools. Bangladesh needed them badly. From 1972 to 1982 Soviet-Bangladesh trade was worth $600 million. Compared with 1972 it more than trebled in 1982. Our two countries cooperated in prospecting, culture and education.

All this is proof that relations between the Soviet Union and Bangladesh were equal and that they benefited both sides. A great contribution to developing and strengthening them was made by Soviet diplomats at the embassy in Dhaka and in the Consulate-General in Chittagong. In this connection we'd like to note that the recent unprecedented steps of the Bangladesh authorities that led to the deportation of a group of Soviet diplomats inevitably conflict with what has been achieved in Soviet-Bangladesh relations. The decision to deport Soviet diplomats, who carried out in Dhaka and Chittagong a mission to further bilateral relations, was not accompanied by any seriously motivated explanations. This step objectively damaged relations between our two countries. The Soviet Union sincerely regrets that the friendly relations with Bangladesh are now undergoing undesirable developments.

Progressive public and political quarters in Bangladesh are in favor of furthering fruitful relations with the USSR. In a resolution adopted by the Executive of the People's League at its sitting in Dhaka it resolutely condemned the unfriendly actions of the military administration against the Soviet Union, which has been a time tested friend of Bangladesh since the liberation struggle in 1971.

BRIEFS

ELECTRICITY FOR AFGHANISTAN -- Tashkent January 27 TASS -- Electricity supply has been started today from the Soviet Union to Afghanistan through a high-voltage line across the Amu Darya River. This event has coincided with the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Afghan agreement on cooperation in the construction of vital project in Afghanistan -- mills and factories, irrigation systems and educational establishments. Electricity has been supplied from the line to the port of Hayratan, which handles the bulk of cargoes within the framework of Afghanistan's international trade. Until now, electricity for the port was generated by a small diesel station. At the present time new lines are under construction in the adjacent areas of Soviet Central Asia and Afghanistan. The lines will link up over the Amu Darya River. This will make it possible to supply Afghanistan with such quantities of electric power that are equivalent to a power generating capacity of 200 thousand kilowatt. A line is already under construction from Hayratan to Mazar-e Sharif, a growing industrial centre of Afghanistan. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 27 Jan 84 LD]

INDOCHINA MINISTERS' 'CONSTRUCTIVE LINE' HAILED

Kapitsa Receives Ambassadors

LD301828 Moscow TASS in English 1758 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 30 TASS -- Today Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa received Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the USSR Dinh Nho Liem, ambassador of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the USSR Hor Nam Hong, and Charge d'Affaires of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in the USSR Veng Saisana.

On behalf of their governments, the representatives of the three countries of Indochina informed about the results of the 8th conference of foreign ministers of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, held on 28 and 29 January in Vientiane, and presented the text of its final document.

The Soviet side expressed its conviction that the problems of Southeast Asia can be resolved only through peaceful means, by developing a dialogue between the countries of Indochina and the ASEAN member states, and its full agreement with the constructive line of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, aimed at improving the situation in that area, and making it a zone of peace, stability and cooperation.

The Soviet Union welcomes the results of the regular conference of foreign ministers of the three countries of Indochina as fresh evidence of the further strengthening of the fraternal friendship, solidarity and all-round cooperation between the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, constituting important factors of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and on the Asian Continent as a whole.

'Unanimity' on Communique

PM302024 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Unanimous Support"]

[Text] Vientiane, 30 Jan -- Participants of the latest conference of foreign ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], the SRV, and the PRK which has ended in Vientiane expressed complete unanimity with the assessment of the international situation in the statements of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The countries of Indochina, says the conference's final communique, wholly support the peaceful initiatives of the Soviet Union and the measures being taken by the USSR and other socialist states in response to imperialism's attempts to achieve military superiority through the stationing of new U.S. nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries. The actions of the Soviet Union and of other socialist countries serve the preservation of peace and security throughout the planet. The LPDR, the SRV and the PRK wholly support the stance taken by the USSR and the Warsaw Pact member states at the conference in Stockholm.

The conference's participants noted with satisfaction the successful development of relations of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between the fraternal countries of Indochina.

They expressed the hope that the state of security and stability in People's Kampuchea will make it possible to implement the withdrawal of the next group of Vietnamese volunteers from this country in the current year.

The ministers of the three Indochinese countries established that the main threat to peace and stability in Southeast Asia -- as the communique says -- is the expansionist, hegemonist policy of Beijing operating in collusion with the U.S. imperialists. Having been forced to talk about peace, China nevertheless continues to carry out subversion on many levels against the LPDR, the SRV and the PRK, is stepping up psychological warfare, and is trying to undermine the cohesion of the Indochinese countries.

The LPDR, the SRV, and the PRK, the communique goes on to say, fully support the consultations between the Soviet Union and China aimed at improving relations, and welcomes the consistent policy being pursued at these consultations by the USSR which is continuing to strengthen solidarity with the countries of Indochina. Highly rating the Soviet Union's principled stance, Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea consider this stance powerful support for, and a source of the enthusiasm of the Indochinese countries' peoples.

The Indochina states, the communique says, have always regarded friendly relations with the Chinese people exceptionally significant for peace and stability in Southeast Asia. Considering the present abnormal relations temporary, Laos, Vietnam, and Kampuchea once again confirm their proposals to restore relations of friendship and cooperation with the PRC on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

The conference's participants resolutely condemned the hostile policy of the U.S. Administration toward the Indochina countries and expressed confidence that this policy will be defeated without fail.

SPK ATTACK ON 'PUPPET' SIHANOUK'S 'FARCE' CITED

PM271546 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "PRK: Propaganda Farce"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 26 Jan -- Statements -- widely billed by imperialist propaganda -- made by ex-Prince Sihanouk, now an obedient puppet in his masters' hands, are nothing but another farce staged by producers from Washington and Beijing. It is aimed at reviving the Pol Pot clique, Kampuchea's SPK AGENCY stresses in a commentary. The so-called "Coalition Government" of the notorious "Democratic Kampuchea" is a collection of Pol Pot holdouts and other Phmer reactionaries entrenched on Thai territory. Attempts to reverse the course of history are futile and ludicrous, the agency notes.

MANILA STEPS MAY CUT TRADE 'DEPENDENCE' ON WEST

BK281536 Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia 1330 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] A workshop on the development of trade between the Philippines and socialist countries is being held in Manila. In this connection, Radio Moscow commentator (Kiril Laskiy) writes:

The Philippines trades with many socialist countries, including the Soviet Union. A trade agreement between the Philippines and the Soviet Union was concluded in 1976 during the visit of President Marcos. Lately, Soviet foreign trade companies and Philippine business circles began to maintain regular contacts. A meeting is being held to discuss the development of a cement factory and other projects with Soviet aid and to study the development of a beneficial pattern for economic cooperation.

Bilateral trade continues to expand. In fact, Soviet imports of traditional Philippine commodities -- sugar, coconut oil, and copra -- now greatly surpasses Soviet exports to the Philippines. Therefore, the Manila workshop is considering steps to balance Soviet-Philippine trade.

By increasing economic and trade relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, the Philippines, like other developing countries, will have a good opportunity to reduce its dependence on the sharp fluctuation of the capitalist market, thereby strengthening its economic sovereignty. This, among other things, was stated at the workshop by Philippine Deputy Trade and Industry Minister (Lebisto). A good example of bilateral cooperation is Philsov -- a Soviet-Philippine joint shipping venture.

Soviet experts believe the time has come for the two countries to thoroughly explore trade and export opportunities and to develop the best pattern and channels to further upgrade working relations. The Manila workshop is being held for this purpose.

GROMYKO LEADS PARTY, STATE DELEGATION TO ROMANIA

Delegation Departs Moscow

LD300822 Moscow TASS in English 0809 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 30 TASS -- A party and government delegation of the USSR left Moscow for Bucharest today at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania. On the delegation are member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko (the head of the delegation). Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Rusakovo and member of the CPSU Central Committee, Deputy Chairman of the SUUR Council of Ministers Nikolay Talyzin. Member of the CPSU Central Committee, Ambassador of the USSR to the Socialist Republic of Romania Yevgeniy Tyazhelnikov is also on the delegation.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Party Control Committee under the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Solomentsev, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Nikolay Ryzhkov, and other officials.

Delegation Greeted on Arrival

AU301940 Moscow in Romanian to Romania 1700 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] A party and government delegation of the USSR led by Andrey Gromyko, member of CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and foreign minister of the USSR, arrived today in Bucharest. The delegation was invited by the Central Committee of the RCP and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The delegation was met at the Bucharest Airport by Gheorghe Oprea, member of the Political Executive Committee of the RCP Central Committee and deputy prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania; Stefan Andrei, candidate member of the Political Executive Committee of the RCP Central Committee and foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania; Miu Dobrescu, candidate member of the Political Executive Committee and secretary of the RCP Central Committee; Comrade Totu, candidate member of the RCP Central Committee and deputy prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Traian Dudas, ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Romania to the USSR; and other officials.

Gromyko-Ceauseascu Talks

LD301829 Moscow TASS in English 1812 30 Jan 84

[Text] Bucharest January 30 TASS -- The questions of the relations between the CPSU and the RCP, the Soviet Union and Romania, as well as some of the topical problems of international politics were examined during the Soviet-Romanian talks that have begun here. Participating in the talks on the Soviet side are the head of the USSR party and government delegation, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Rusakov, and other members of the delegation, and on the Romanian side - the general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu, and other leaders of the RCP and the SRR.

During the talks, held in a frank and comradely atmosphere, the sides stressed the important significance of strengthening the Soviet-Romanian foreign-policy interaction in the spirit of the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member states and of the Moscow joint statement of the leading party and state figures of the socialist countries.

The general secretary of the RCP, President of the SSR Nicolae Ceausescu gave a dinner in honor of the Soviet party and government delegation.

The delegation has arrived in Bucharest today on a visit at the invitation of the RCP Central Committee and the Government of Romania.

Participants in Talks

LD302007 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Soviet-Romanian talks began in Bucharest today. Taking part on the Soviet side were: Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR minister of foreign affairs; Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Tyazhelnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR ambassador in Romania.

Taking part on the Romanian side were: Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] and president of Romania; Oprea, member of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive and first deputy prime minister; Andrei, candidate member of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive and minister of foreign affairs, Dobrescu, candidate member of the Political Executive and secretary of the RCP Central Committee, and Totu, candidate member of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive and deputy prime minister.

Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko conveyed comradely greetings to Nicolae Ceausescu from the Soviet leadership and personally from Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov. In turn, Comrade Ceausescu asked that comradely greetings should be conveyed to the Soviet leaders and personally to Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov.

During the talks, which passed in a frank, comradely atmosphere, there was discussion of questions concerning relations between the CPSU and the RCP, between the Soviet Union and Romania, and also current problems of international politics. The sides stressed the great importance of strengthening Soviet-Romanian interaction in foreign policy in the spirit of the Prague Political Declaration by the member-states of the Warsaw Treaty, and the Moscow joint statement by leading party and state officials from the socialist countries.

Comrade Ceausescu gave a dinner in honor of the Soviet party and government delegation. Comrade Gromyko and Comrade Ceausescu exchanged toasts. The dinner passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Romanian Media Coverage

For Romanian media coverage of the visit by USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko to Bucharest, his talks with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, and the dinner toasts exchanged, please see the 31 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

USSR, GDR FOREIGN TRADE MINISTERS CONFER 26 JAN

PM301016 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting of Ministers"]

[Text] N. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade, and H. Soelle, GDR minister of foreign trade, held talks on 26 January. Questions on the further development of trade and economic relations between the two countries were discussed.

HUNGARIAN SOCIALIST DELEGATION VISITS MOSCOW

MSZMP CC Secretary Arrives

LD262152 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow: Ferenc Havasi has arrived in the Soviet capital. The member of the party Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee was invited by the Central Committee of the Soviet fraternal party. Ferenc Havasi and his entourage were received at Moscow airport by Vladimir Dolgikh, secretary of the Central Committee.

Economic Cooperation Discussed

LD272207 Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 2000 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] An the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, a group of competent officials of of the MSZMP Central Committee led by Ferenc Havasi, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee, was in Moscow on 26-27 January. The Hungarian comrades were received by Geydar Aliyev, member of the CPSU Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Vladimir Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; and Nikolay Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the discussions conducted in a warm, comradely atmosphere, there was an exchange of experiences in the sphere of economic construction on the implementation of the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 12th MSZMP Congress, and of the resolutions of the subsequent plenums of the two parties [as heard]. Some topical issues of Soviet-Hungarian economic cooperation were also discussed.

Nikolay Talyzin, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Sandor Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador in Moscow, also participated in the discussions.

ARKHIPOV PAYS 'OFFICIAL' VISIT TO FRANCE

Arrives in Paris

LD291845 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Paris January 29 TASS -- Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has arrived on an official visit here today at the invitation of the French Government.

At the Paris Orly Airport he was welcomed by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson and other officials.

Talks With Cheysson, Cresson

LD302212 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2002 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Paris, 30 Jan (TASS) -- Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is on an official visit here at the invitation of the French Government, has met with Claude Cheysson, French minister for external relations.

They exchanged views on certain questions of bilateral Soviet-French cooperation in the light of the development of the current seriously exacerbated international situation. In this connection Ivan Arkhipov described U.S. policy on the international arena as a policy of diktat and arms race.

From the Soviet side it was noted that the Soviet Union advocates the strengthening of good relations with France on a principled and honest basis. We favor the development of ties and exchanges between the two countries in the sphere of economy, science, technology and others. The reserves for this development are far from having been exhausted, despite the known difference in positions. The Soviet Union proceeds on the basis that France will continue not to allow itself to be drawn into the policy of sanctions and embargo. Soviet-French cooperation, in the view of the sides, can play a role in strengthening peace in Europe and outside it.

Certain questions relating to international economic relations were also discussed in the conversation. Both sides expressed the view that these relations should be built on a just and equitable basis, without discrimination or interference in internal affairs.

Claude Cheysson gave a lunch in honor of the head of the Soviet delegation. The French minister expressed satisfaction at the way cooperation between France and the Soviet Union has developed in the 60 years from the time of the establishment of diplomatic relations between them. He expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union and its Army for its historic role in the liberation of Europe from fascism. Noting the French Government's desire to continue to develop relations and contacts with the USSR, despite the differences in views that exist, and the difficulties in the international situation, Claude Cheysson said that it is necessary to demonstrate to the whole world the willingness of France and the USSR to develop, without any kind of holdups, the mutually beneficial and balanced relations they have with each other. He proposed a toast in honor of Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and of the Soviet Government, and in honor of the Soviet people.

Ivan Arkhipov, in a reply speech, declared that the Soviet Union takes a positive view of the Soviet-French relations that have developed in various fields. A considerable place in the range of these relations is held by mutually beneficial commercial, economic, scientific and technical links. At the same time there are still possibilities as yet unused, which would enable Soviet-French relations in these fields to become still stronger and deeper.

The Soviet side is practically demonstrating its desire to develop cooperation with France in this direction.

Ivan Arkhipov stressed that the Soviet Union and France are tied by historically good relations, great mutual respect and liking for each other. The Soviet Union values these traditions and considers that with the efforts of both sides, new steps could be taken for further developing cooperation, including economic and scientific-technical cooperation. It is in this that the Soviet sees above all the aim of its stay in Paris.

Ivan Arkhipov proposed a toast to the development of Soviet-French relations, to the health of President Francois Mitterrand and to France with its rich revolutionary traditions.

On the same day, Ivan Arkhipov had a conversation with Edith Cresson, France's minister of foreign trade and tourism. There was detailed discussion of specific questions of bilateral trade and economic links. Both sides expressed overall satisfaction with the present state of trade and economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and France, and the fact that it is developing on a long-term and stable basis. Both sides expressed their readiness for a further development of trade and exchanges, taking the interests of both countries into account and being made in the most favorable conditions. Ivan Arkhipov also met with a group of directors of leading French companies, firms and banks. He spoke of the considerable prospects and undertakings that exist in trade and economic links between the two countries, stressing that the practical actions of France's businessmen could assist to a large extent the implementation of both countries' governments to develop mutually advantageous cooperation.

In the evening a reception was held at the USSR Embassy in Paris in honor of the Soviet delegation, involving Claude Cheysson and other officials.

French Reportage

For French reportage on the visit to France by Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, see the France section of the 30 January Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SOVIET-FRENCH TIES 'DEVELOPING SUCCESSFULLY'

PM301717 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 84 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Kharlanov article under rubric "Our Commentary": "Useful Conversation"]

[Text] Certain positive changes have become apparent in Soviet-French relations in recent months -- this conclusion was drawn by the French left-wing press in January. It has in mind, above all, the trade and economic ties between our countries, which developed successfully last year.

The volume of two-way trade has increased considerably, and its balanced nature has greatly improved. Major contracts have been concluded for the delivery of French machinery and equipment to the USSR -- which is making it possible to somewhat improve the situation in those sectors of that country's industry suffering from the crisis. At the beginning of this year Urengoy gas began to be delivered to France along the main gas pipeline.

Franco-Soviet cultural ties have livened up. As E. Cresson, French minister of foreign trade and tourism, pointed out with satisfaction, scientific and technical cooperation is developing successfully between the two countries, including in important spheres such as nuclear power, space exploration, and television. Useful ideas that could give a new boost to ties between our countries were put forward at the Soviet-French colloquium on questions of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation held in Paris recently.

There is no doubt that, by successfully developing their bilateral relations, France and the USSR, which were pioneers of detente in the sixties, could also conduct a fruitful dialogue in the political sphere in order to halt the deterioration in the international situation imposed by the present U.S. Administration and to prevent the world from sliding toward the worst times of the cold war. This was said by the participants in the Soviet-French colloquium devoted to problems of disarmament and the strengthening of peace, which was held in Moscow last week and was organized by the USSR-France and France-USSR Societies. Political, trade union, and public figures, representatives of science, culture, and religious circles, military people, and journalists participated in that meeting, which was held in a serious, frank, and friendly atmosphere.

There is great scope for making an effort in this sphere. It was pointed out, for example, that at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament our countries could jointly promote the successful resolution of its tasks. The Soviet participants in the meeting expressed the wish that France follow the Soviet Union's example and pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons -- which could serve as an impetus for other nuclear powers too.

Sometimes different viewpoints clashed in the dialogue. Thus, the Soviet participants could not agree with the well known French stand expressed by certain French participants in the colloquium, which boils down to a refusal to count the nuclear arsenals of Britain and France during the discussion of the problem of medium-range nuclear missile weapons in Europe. How can the Soviet Union disregard the fact that 162 French and British missiles are targeted on it, particularly if it is known that the recently adopted French military program bluntly calls our country a potential enemy?

But, despite the disagreements that existed, the participants in the Moscow meeting unanimously advocated a search for paths leading to gradual disarmament in East and West on the basis of equality and identical security. The colloquium confirmed once again the usefulness of the Soviet-French dialogue and of the friendly relations between our two countries, which have always been an important guarantee of peace in Europe.

FRENCH BUSINESSMEN COMMENT ON TRADE WITH USSR

LD281612 Moscow TASS in English 1421 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Paris January 28 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports:

Representatives of the business circles of France highly appreciate the results of Soviet-French cooperation.

Jean Feuvrier, general secretary of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, has stated in an interview with the TASS correspondent that the results of the cooperation between trade-and-industrial partners of the two countries in the past year receive favourable appraisals in France. The volume of trade grew considerably, with deliveries both from France and the Soviet Union markedly increasing, which meets the interests of the two sides. The supply of Siberian gas from the Soviet Union through the gigantic gas pipeline has been started, which furnishes a still more solid foundation for long-term development of bilateral economic contacts.

Our specialists' joint work with Soviet colleagues is of inestimable importance, said Pierre Cavoleau, representative of the directorate of the automobile firm "Renault." It results in the emergence of new ideas and of such solutions which then find applications both in the USSR and in France. Joint developments aimed at raising traffic safety and at reducing drivers' fatigue look particularly interesting.

Jean-Claude Tur, general secretary of the firm "Fruehauf France", which specializes in the manufacture of motor trailers, has stated that his company has long and successfully been doing business with Soviet organizations and hopes for further deepening of such cooperation. He condemned the attempts by the Washington administration at foiling through discriminatory restrictions the capitalist countries' trade and economic contacts with the USSR. The Americans have no right to put pressure on us. They are unable to make us discontinue deliveries to the USSR, Jean-Claude Tur emphasized.

BRITISH MP'S VISIT LENINGRAD, LEAVE FOR HELSINKI

LD291606 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Leningrad January 29 TASS -- The visit to Leningrad of a group of British MPs from the Liberal Party led by party leader David Steel was proceeding in an atmosphere not only of traditional hospitality, but also in a festive spirit. The guests, who arrived here from Moscow yesterday, were visiting the city on the Neva at the time of the celebrations devoted to the 40th anniversary of the day when the city was completely freed from the enemy siege during the years of the Second World War.

The siege of Leningrad by the Nazi troops continued for nine hundred days and nights. The city was suffering from an acute shortage of fuel and food, city transport was at a standstill, and yet despite the enormous hardships, the city did not knuckle under. More than half a million Leningraders and army men sacrificed their lives in the name of victory. The British MPs came together with Leningraders to the Piskaryovskoye Memorial Cemetery to pay tribute to the memory of those who fell in the city during the Second World War. The guests laid a wreath to the bronze monument of mourning motherland. They also laid flowers to the monument to the heroic defenders of Leningrad in Victory Square.

This is unforgettable. We are bowing our heads and paying tribute to the unexampled courage of Leningraders, David Steel said receiving the commemorative medal of the memorial.

The guests showed great interest in the historical sights of the city. The MPs visited the cruiser "Aurora", which is a monument of the Great October Socialist Revolution of 1917. The seamen of the "Aurora" also took part in the heroic defence of Leningrad in 1941-1944. After the war the cruiser has been turned into a memorial museum and is now tied up forever to the embankment on the Neva.

The guests also visited the Hermitage, the famous world art museum having on its collections more than three million monuments of culture from times immemorial to this day.

The British MPs have today wound up their visit and left for Helsinki. Before leaving for Helsinki by air, David Steel told a TASS correspondent that the visit to the Soviet Union of the group of MPs from the Liberal Party headed by him "has been a contribution to the further development of contacts between Britain and the Soviet Union."

FRG SPOKESMAN'S REACTION TO ANDROPOV INTERVIEW

DW271418 Moscow in German to Germany 1600 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Vladimir Ostrogorskiy commentary]

[Excerpts] DPA reported that Juergen Sudhoff, the official government spokesman of the FRG, has stated that although Bonn welcomed the businesslike language of Soviet state and party leader Yuriy Andropov's latest PRAVDA interview, it rejects the reproaches directed against the United States. Listen to a commentary by Vladimir Ostrogorskiy:

It is simply amazing that some people in Bonn have assumed the role of advocating the current policy of the Reagan administration in Europe, in particular in its efforts of further heating up the arms race in the field of nuclear missiles on our continent. This policy, which meets with stronger criticism not only by the public of the FRG and other West European countries but also in quarters of the Bonn establishment, sometimes is advocated so ardently in the FRG capital that it would seem it is located on the Potomac instead of the Rhine.

It has obviously been forgotten in Bonn that the FRG's military-strategic, political, and economic situation is by no means tantamount to that of the United States and that the Washington administration -- as was admitted recently also by President Reagan -- is defending the own American interests, properly speaking the interests of American imperial policy everywhere in the world.

This also explains the rejection on the Soviet assessment on the U.S. policy, of which Herr Juergen Sudhoff was speaking at a press conference in Bonn.

The statement by Herr Sudhoff also contains the following remarkable words: The positions of the sides in the current confrontation, he said, have not changed. If Herr Sudhoff meant to say that the Soviet Union is ready as before to utilize any realistic chance for negotiations on disarmament and the nonuse of force then I can only concur with his view. I also agree with him if he was referring to the Soviet Union's refusal to participate in negotiations just for the sake of negotiations and to act as though there do not exist any new missiles in West Europe which are targeted on us and on our allies. Undoubtedly, Herr Sudhoff would also be correct if the unaltered positions of the sides he was speaking of applied to the fact that the latest statements made by U.S. President Reagan did not contain any new ideas or any new proposals.

However, I believe that when Herr Sudhoff said that the positions of the sides had not changed it was something quite different he had in mind, namely what is in conformity with Bonn's stance, that is to say to welcome everything that comes from overseas and so reject everything that is proposed from East Europe. This attitude taken by Bonn, however, does not contribute in any way to making headway in finding a peaceful solution to the problems of Europe.

CONTINUED COUNTERARMAMENT OPPOSITION IN FRG SEEN

DW270943 Moscow in German to Germany 1620 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, protest actions against the importation of U.S. intermediate-range missiles into the country are continuing in the FRG. In Muenster, antimissile movement activitists appealed to the public to support the dismantling of the missiles already deployed. At their meeting in Frankfurt/Main, representatives of the citizen's actions for peace decided to intensify the struggle for Hesse's liberation from U.S. mass destruction weapons of all kinds. Here is a Radio Moscow commentator on this issue:

After signing the schedule for the deployment of Pershing II's in the FRG, Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger reportedly drank a glass of champagne and said that the matter was settled. In this connection the missile addicts in the FRG also celebrated the beginning of the deployment of U.S. missiles. They claimed that the country's antiwar movement has failed to attain its goal, which had made it cohesive and politically active, and they predicted an early end to this movement.

However, reality, has proved these hopes futile. According to reports from the FRG and other European NATO countries, and even from the United States itself, the antiwar forces have not resigned in the face of the intensifying threat of a nuclear missile conflict, but are responding to it with stepped-up activities. A halt to the importation of U.S. missiles into West Europe, a return to the situation prior to deployment, and constructive negotiations on European intermediate-range nuclear weapons -- these are the objectives of the antiwar organizations and of all participants in today's antiwar movement, regardless of their ideological bent.

It was no coincidence that the participants in the Frankfurt and Muenster meetings stressed that the appeal by President Reagan and his supporters in Bonn to struggle for the security of strength is illusory and dangerous. The Muenster appeal says in part that in the age of nuclear mass destruction weapons, security can be attained solely through cooperation and not through confrontation. This is also the stance of the Soviet public, and is also the objective of the Soviet peace initiatives which among other ways have been expounded in the answers by Soviet party-state leader, Yuriy Andropov to questions from PRAVDA. We have already familiarized our listeners with these answers.

In our country it is known from press agency reports that people in the Federal Republic are preparing for the new nationwide protest day on 30 January against the deployment of U.S. missiles. We know that preparatory measures, such as the meeting in Muenster and Frankfurt, must be made under the [word indistinct] of constantly increasing psychological and police pressure from the U.S. and FRG missile addicts. Thus, we owe all the more respect to the courage of the FRG people who consistently advocate the cause of peace remain loyal to the principles of humanism, and follow the conclusions of commonsense.

SPANISH PARLIAMENTARIAN ASSESSES USSR VISIT

PM271152 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with Miguel Angel Martinez, first deputy chairman of the Spanish Cortes Generales Congress of Deputies Foreign Affairs Committee by special correspondent L. Kamynin: "USSR-Spain: For the Sake of Peace and Good-Neighborliness" -- first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Moscow, Leningrade Tbilisi... The visit to our country by members of a delegation of the Spanish Cortes Generales (Parliament) Congress of Deputies Foreign Affairs Committee has ended. There was a meeting in the Kremlin between the Spanish parliamentarians and delegations of the USSR Supreme Soviet Chambers' Foreign Affairs Commissions. Numerous representatives of the Soviet public met with them.

Before the visitors returned home, the delegation's leader Miguel Angel Martinez, first deputy chairman of the Spanish Cortes Generales Congress of Deputies Foreign Affairs Committee, gave an interview to an IZVESTIYA special correspondent.

Question: What can you say about your visit as a whole and what is its importance?

Answer: Our delegation had a historic mission. It is the first time that Spanish parliamentarians have visited the Soviet Union and met with their colleagues -- representatives of the Soviet people.

Forty years of dictatorship in our country were accompanied by 40 years with no relations between Spain and the Soviet Union. And we proceeded on the basis that the restoration of freedom by our people and the democratic normalization of life in Spain also necessitates the step of establishing normal and cordial relations between the parliaments of our two countries. We are satisifed that we fulfilled the tasks we set ourselves. I believe that we have taken an important step along the path of expanding mutual links and laid the foundations for a considerable improvement in our relations in various spheres of bilateral cooperation.

Question: Your delegation's visit took place in conditions of a serious deterioration in the world situation through the fault of aggressive Western circles. What, in your opinion, is the role of parliamentarians in promoting detente and consolidating peace?

Answer: The implementation of interparliamentary links, of which our visit and the talks held during the trip are good proof, constitutes in my opinion a positive and important factor in maintaining a dialogue which enables us to know each other better. Such contacts play an inestimable role in maintaining peace. The Spanish parliament has the opportunity to channel the government's policy into the search for efforts necessary to secure peace.

During the trip we learned what a tremendous interest in Spain exists in the USSR. We also saw that the Soviet Union treats our positions with respect, despite the fact that some of them were at variance with the positions of the Soviet side during the talks.

We also realized that great opportunities exist to expand mutual cooperation in the sphere of cultural, economic, scientific, and technical links, and also in the sphere of major international problems such as the struggle for peace and disarmament.

Question: You had meetings on Soviet soil. What are your inpressions?

Answer: We will take with us from the Soviet Union unforgettable personal impressions and sentiments of gratitude for the warmth with which we and our people were treated wherever we went.

In leaving the Soviet Union, we understand that for our part we must do much to respond in a fitting manner to the striving we have seen here to expand Soviet-Spanish cooperation for the sake of peace and good-neighborliness. There are good prospects for this cooperation.

Smiling warmly, M.A. Martinez said in conclusion: "We have met with such hospitality and cordiality that it will be difficult for us Spaniards to equal -- even less exceed -- the hospitality which our colleagues from the USSR Supreme Soviet have shown us, when we receive them in our country. And we hope that this will be in the near future."

SPANISH MILITARY MODERNIZATION LINKED TO U.S.

LD271332 Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2000 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] The Spanish international radio service reports that the supreme council of the Spanish Armed Forces has studied the Armed Forces Modernization Plan. The conclusions of the supreme council will be submitted for ratification by the Council of Ministers. Our observer Yuriy Konstantinov writes:

The modernization program of the Spanish Armed Forces to bring them into line with Atlantic Alliance standards envisages not only the reorganization of those on active service, but also the equipment of the three armed forces with modern weapons purchased mainly from the United States. The cost of this imported war materiel is immense, says EL PAIS. The amounts of money leave many Spaniards in a state of shock. Indeed, the socialist government allocated $3 billion just for the purchase in the United States of 72 F-18 Hornet attack aircraft for the Future Attack and Combat Aircraft program. Madrid will have to make an advance payment to the Americans this year of 33 billion pesetas.

The Defense Ministry was given 130 billion pesetas for the manufacture of tanks with Western technology; 30 billion for the production of anti-tank missiles; and 10 billion pesetas for the manufacture of helicopter gunships.

Spain is buying Harpoon surface-to-air missiles, electronic systems and other war materiel from the United States. The EFE agency reports that Spain intends to build nuclear submarines so as to become the sixth country in the world with a nuclear submarine fleet. Thus, leaving Britain behind, Spain is becoming the most important West European client of the American military corporations. According to the Madrid press, the socialist government has already spent more on rearming the army than all the previous centrist cabinets.

The authorities are putting forward a whole series of arguments in favor of this arms increase. They say things like the Spanish Armed Forces is poorly armed and the revision of its fighting capability requires justified sacrifices from the country. Revealing the hidden motive behind these statements, EL PAIS says rightly that these sacrifices are due to Spain's membership in the NATO bloc and to the demands by the Atlantist strategists to bring the armed forces up to NATO standards. It is also said that at the same time that it is buying very expensive arms from the United States and other Atlantist countries, Spain is exporting Spanish war materiel which provides the country with a large income. However, these statements are very much open to question. For example, up to now Washington has not decided on the purchase of Spanish transport aircraft for a total cost of 50 billion pesetas, an amount that cannot be compared with the $3 billion that will be spent on just the purchase of the U.S. aircraft.

The business of purchasing war materiel is causing alarm among many Spaniards who, according to the polls and judging by the press comment, are asking the question: Why and for what purpose does Spain need to arm itself to the teeth? Can this huge military expenditure be justified, bearing in mind the economic crisis and the 18 percent unemployment? Economy and Finance Minister Miguel Boyer has called on Spaniards to tighten their belts, but the Spaniards respond to such appeals with big anti-war demonstrations. One took place in Pamplona on Tuesday with the slogan "Jobs Not Arms".

ITALY PLANS TO SEND MILITARY 'UNITS' TO SARDINIA

LD271611 Moscow TASS in English 1337 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Rome January 27 TASS -- TASS correspondent Viktor Solomin reports:

A group of parliamentarians from the Italian Communist Party have sent an urgent interpellation to Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini, requesting explanations for the reports that big units of Italian troops of operational designation are to come to Sardinia soon.

According to the recent statements of the commander of the military garrison in Sardinia General Rasponi, the units are intended for "repelling possible enemy attacks from the area of the Middle East". A new strategic role in the Mediterranean basin, where the situation is explosive, is thus being imposed upon the island, the newspaper "UNITA" points out.

The decision of the military authorities is one more dangerous step in the further militarisation of Sardinia which reached alarming proportions. Sardinia is now covered with a dense network of military bases and other structures. A particular threat comes from the American military presence. An incident with an American nuclear submarine, which became damaged, took place a few years ago at big U.S. nuclear naval base on the island of Maddalena, near Sardinia. Radioactive contamination of a vast water area was prevented only at the last moment.

The progressive public of Italy believes that Sardinia should become an island of peace and cooperation between peoples of Europe, Africa and the Middle East, runs a statement of a group of representatives of a number of democratic parties. It is necessary, the statement stresses, to demilitarise all Mediterranean islands, to guarantee peace and economic development of the countries of the region.

DANISH SOCIALIST PARTIES 'DEMAND' NUCLEAR BAN

LD271339 Moscow TASS in English 1255 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Copenhagen January 27 TASS -- Under no circumstances, either at peace time or war time, Denmark should allow deployment of nuclear weapons on its territory. Such a demand was made in Parliament by deputies from the Left Socialists' Party and the Socialist People's Party. They proposed to concretize the resolution of the Social Democratic Party of Denmark, which was adopted by the Folketinget (parliament) in November last year, and which calls upon the government of the country for vigorous actions to create a nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe. Deputies of left parties emphasised that there should be no nuclear weapons on Danish soil even in a so-called crisis situation.

GREECE REFUSES TO JOIN NATO 'DENSE CROP' EXERCISE

LD271601 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Brussels January 27 TASS -- The Greek Government officially informed the NATO headquarters and the staff of the Allied Supreme Commander-Europe situated in Belgium that Greece will not take part in the NATO military exercises codenamed "Dense Crop" that are planned to be held in the Aegean Sea next February. The NOUVELLE ATLANTIQUE bulletin close to the Atlantic circles reports this today.

The Greek Government refused more than once in 1982 and in 1983 to take part in NATO's exercises.

'LARGE INCREASE' SEEN IN GREEK EXPORTS TO USSR

NC251824 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1700 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The 3-day talks, being held in Moscow by a Greek delegation under alternate National Economy Minister Vaitsos, will end tomorrow with extremely positive results for the Greek side. These talks resulted in a large increase in Greek exports to the Soviet Union, and in an agreement on the establishment of an alumina plant in Greece with Soviet cooperation, and the sale of 1.8 million tons of Soviet oil to Greece at an advantageous price. Specifically, it was agreed to increase Greek textile exports to the Soviet Union by 60 percent, and Greek agricultural exports by 10 percent.

TURKISH-SOVIET TRADE TALKS BEGIN IN MOSCOW

Bilateral Trade Discussed

TA231734 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Turkish-Soviet talks aimed at increasing the trade volume between the two countries have begun in Moscow. At the talks the Turkish delegation is being headed by the under secretary of the Prime Ministry for Foreign Trade and the Treasury, Ekrem Pakdemirli, and the Soviet delegation by the Deputy Minister of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade Ivan Timofeyevich Grishin. At a meeting held today, the two delegations discussed the possibilities of increasing the trade between the two countries. The Turkish delegation visited industrial installations in the vicinity of Moscow this afternoon.

Delegations Continue Contacts

TA251713 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] A Turkish delegation headed by the Prime Ministry for Foreign Trade and the Treasury under secretary, Ekrem Pakdemirli, is continuing its contacts with Soviet officials in Moscow. Today Pakdemirli met with Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations Deputy Chairman (Kochanov). Views were exchanged during the meeting on the development of economic cooperation between Turkey and the Soviet Union.

Pakdemirli is now meeting with Baybakov, deputy chairman of the Soviet Presidium and State Planning Committee. He will also meet Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Nikolay Komarov this evening.

Agreement Signed

TA261900 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Letters were exchanged in Moscow today concerning the payment through goods of interest and installments of Soviet installation and equipment loans to Turkey in 1984. The letters that were exchanged between Prime Ministry for Foreign Trade and the Treasury Under Secretary Ekrem Pakdemirli and Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry Deputy Minister Ivan Grishin also includes the list of Turkish goods amounting to $60 million to be exported to the Soviet Union in 1984 as payment of the Soviet loan.

Moreover, an agreement was signed in Moscow today between Fisko Birlik [Hazelnut Cooperatives Union] and the relevant Soviet organization for the export of 18 tons of peeled hazelnuts worth $39.6 million. According to the agreement, the Soviet Union will pay $31.6 million in foreign exchange and the rest through its installation and equipment loans. Agreements for Turkish exports amounting to more than $100 million have been reached thus far in talks between Turkish businessmen and Soviet offficials.

Today Pakdemirli called on Soviet First Deputy Chairman for Economic Issues Ivan Arkhipov. Economic cooperation between the two countries and the promotion of bilateral trade were discussed during the talks.

Pakdemirli and the delegation accompanying him are expected to conclude their contacts tomorrow and return home.

U.S., USSR POLICIES TOWARD LEBANON CONTRASTED

LD302328 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 30 Jan 84

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vyacheslav Lavrentyev]

[Excerpt] According to reports from Beirut, American Marines quartered in the Lebanese capital opened tank gun fire on areas controlled by the Lebanese national patriotic forces, wounding peaceful people.

Such reports became routine long ago. From day to day the U.S. presence in Lebanon brings sorrow and suffering to the country's inhabitants. Washington explains its interference in Lebanon's affairs by alleging that it is acting in order to save it as a sovereign state, but in fact it is destroying the state. With the aid of force, the United States is trying to force the Lebanese to adopt the 17 May 1983 agreement with Israel, an agreement rejected by most Lebanese as humiliating and capitulationist.

While destroying the Lebanese state, the United States at the same time mendaciously accuses the Soviet Union of apparently not furthering the settlement of the Lebanese problem. The Soviet Union's position is, however, clear and unambiguous. We stand in solidarity with the valiant struggle of the Lebanese patriots against the Israeli occupiers. The Soviet Union positively views the Lebanese people's striving to achieve a solution to the country's problems through constructive dialogue on the basis of ensuring its unity, territorial integrity, and independence. The USSR also supports efforts aimed at strengthening the all-Lebanon base for the struggle for the country's national interests and for ensuring conditions for conducting a policy of nonalignment and the preservation of close ties with the Arab world, to which Lebanon also belongs.

U.S. 'DELIBERATELY' FUELING TENSIONS IN LEBANON

LD301628 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Beirut January 30 TASS -- Today U.S. Marines again fired on a number of areas adjoining the Beirut International Airport. The airport was temporarily closed. There are civilian casualties.

In deliberately fuelling tensions in Lebanon, the U.S. Administration and its partner in the anti-Arab strategic alliance - Tel Aviv are out to disrupt normalisation in the country, to prevent an internal Lebanese settlement on the basis of a national consensus, and thus to keep the pretext to building up the U.S. military presence in Lebanon.

Prominent Lebanese politician and former President Suleiman Frangie sharply criticised the aggressive U.S. actions in Lebanon. He described as "false and calumnious" President Reagan's assertions that the U.S. military contingent is allegedly called upon to "defend" the security of that state. It is well known, he said, that it was Washington's policy that plunged Lebanon into this critical situation, bringing death and destruction to the people of the country. Suleiman Frangie demanded an immediate withdrawal of the U.S. military from the Lebanese soil.

We in Lebanon, said President of the National Federation of Factory and Office Workers Trade Unions of Lebanon I. al-Habr, know from our own experience what war is. Imperialism has provoked a civil war in our country that brought us many sufferings. Israel committed its aggression against us with the U.S. support.

Attempts are now continuing to carry out a plot designed to deprive us of our independence altogether. That is why we are grateful to the Soviet Union for supporting our struggle. The Lebanese people demand that the USA and other imperialist countries end their aggression which means further sufferings and deprivations for the working masses, the Lebanese trade unionist said.

JORDAN'S HUSAYN ON ISRAEL'S LAND ANNEXATION

LD301416 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Amman January 30 TASS -- King Husayn of Jordan has denounced Tel Aviv's actions aimed at annexation of occupied Arab lands and reaffirmed the determination to continue the struggle for their liberation. Speaking at a press conference held here, he emphasised that Israel's refusal to withdraw its troops from Lebanon and the continued construction of Israeli paramilitary settlements on the captured lands is a serious obstacle to solution of the Middle East problem.

The king of Jordan emphasised the importance of the Soviet Union's participation in the quest for ways of a political settlement of the Middle East situation. The USSR, he said, is making a substantial contribution to supporting peace efforts in that region.

Husayn turned down the assertions that Jordan would accept the U.S. proposal of 220 million dollar military aid for the formation of "Jordanian Rapid Deployment Force". We have no plans of forming a force of such a name, he said.

JEWISH 'DESECRATION' OF ARAB MOSQUES NOTED

LD301458 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Amman January 30 TASS -- Zionist thugs have made yet another attempt to blow up Moslem sancturies in the occupied eastern sector of Jerusalem. According to reports reaching here, a few days ago several members of the extremist "Jewish Defence League" were detained at the entrance to the Al-'Aqsa Mosque and the 'Umar Mosque with a big quantity of explosives and grenades.

This is not the first attempt to desecrate Arab mosques in Jerusalem. A few years ago, Zionist religious fanatics set Al-'Aqsa on fire. Later Israeli soldiers fired at a crowd of believers leaving the mosque. In March last year thugs from the "Jewish Defence League" planted a mine at the entrance to the mosque and it was only by accident that an explosion was averted.

The Mufti of Jerusalem Al-'Alami stated in connection with the yet another attempt to blow up the mosque that the Israeli Government bears responsibility for the desecration of Moslem sanctuaries. Official Tel Aviv, he said, knows of extremists' terroristic plans, but does nothing to stop their crimes.

AL-QADHDHAFI CITED ON U.S. MISSLE DEPLOYMENT

LD310805 Moscow TASS in English 0753 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli January 31 TASS -- Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, has stated that U.S. nuclear medium-range missiles are posing a real threat to peace in Europe. He stressed that the U.S. Administration was trying to delude the West European public by claims that the deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles was ensuring their security. That step of the United States actually posed a threat to the European peoples and was making them hostages to Washington's policy, Al-Qadhdhafi pointed out.

U.S. REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR HABRE, FRENCH ACTIONS

PM301615 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jan 84 First Edition p 6

[TASS reports under the general heading: "On the Situation in Chad. Sharp Increase in Military Tension"]

[Text] Paris, 27 Jan -- On the orders of the French command, four more Jaguar ground-attack aircraft, two tanker aircraft, and one reconnaissance aircraft have been hurriedly transferred from Gabon to Chad. As AFP reports from Ndjamena, a spokesman for General J. Poli, commander of the French invasion force, has confirmed "the arrival of new aircraft in Chad." News agencies report the interventionists' feverish preparations for an offensive against forces of the Transitional Government of National Unity, which enjoys the support of the population. Soumaila Mahamat, the Ndjamena regime's minister of information, has called on Paris to respond to the failure in the Zigey region, where the French Air Force incurred losses, by "mounting a general offensive." A statement by the Ministry of External Relations published here points out that France is "carefully studying the military situation in Chad." President F. Mitterrand examined the "new situation" in that African country at an urgent conference with the ministers of national defense and external relations.

Washington, 27 Jan -- The U.S. State Department has issued a provocative statement inciting Paris to further widen its intervention in Chad. Deliberately overlooking the French occupation of Chad, the United States has rained down crude attacks on Libya. The Reagan administration has declared that it will continue to support France's actions in Chad, as well as Habre's puppet regime.

Tripoli, 27 Jan -- Libyan television has warned the Ndjamena authorities and their Western bosses against further stirring up conflict in Chad. The groundless allegations disseminated by AFP that Libyan troops are on Chadian territory, the television emphasized, are aimed at sowing doubts about the strength of the positions of the legitimate Transitional Government of National Unity. Meanwhile, the troops of the Transitional Government of National Unity have once again proved their ability to conduct combat operations without anyone's assistance by dealing a rebuff to the French aircraft which made raids on their positions.

U.S., FRANCE WANT C. AFRICAN 'HOTBED OF TENSION'

LD310731 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Bronislaw Myakota commentary]

[Excerpts] Chad is again in the headlines of the Western media. The press, radio and television report fierce fighting between troops of the pro-West Habre regime and units of the Transitional Government of National Unity, direct involvement of French Air Force in military actions supporting Habre, and the downing of a French fighter plane.

An analysis of the Chad situation indicates that the latest exacerbation in this country in Central Africa occurred exactly a fortnight following the breakdown of talks on national reconciliation -- which was caused by the Habre regime being installed into power in 1982 with CIA money. This happened because the Ndjamena authorities and their backers, the United States and France, did not want to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Chad situation, nor to withdraw the foreign troops from there.

The breakdown of the Addis Ababa talks showed that the imperialist forces are not interested in a return to peaceful life for the people of Chad. Washington and Paris want to preserve a hotbed of tension in Central Africa and to step up their military presence in this strategically important region. They have not relinquished their attempts to achieve a military solution of the conflict in Chad.

Now the French interventionist force has come out into the forefront of military action and is ready for a new offensive in the north of Chad where the troops of the Transitional Government of National Unity are based. The strike power of the French Air Force in Chad is being increased. New fighter planes are being urgently transferred to Ndjamena from bases in the south of France and in Gabon. Military observers note that this is in preparation for an offensive aiming to change the balance of forces to Habre's advantage.

To escape from the dead end where Chad has been brought by imperialists and neocolonialists will indeed only be possible along the road of seeking a peaceful solution. This road has the support of all progressive forces on the Continent of Africa.

U.S. 'DESTABILIZATION' OF AFRICAN REGIMES VIEWED

LD310056 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Assistant U.S. State Secretary for African Affairs Chester Crocker has said upon his arrival in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, that the main thing is to secure peace in the south of Africa so that other problems of the region could be settled afterwards. Mikhail Glebov has this comment:

Ironically, two amazingly similar statements by U.S. officials have been made in Lusaka in the past 2 weeks. Ten days before Crocker's call for peace in the region, a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Zambia came out with a statement in Lusaka. The embassy spokesman denied that the United States is involved in military operations against Angola or that it supports UNITA, a group which is trying to bring down the Angolan Government. The two statements are similar not only because both of them picture U.S. policy in the region in peaceful tones. What the two statements have in common is first of all that they are false and there are facts to confirm this.

A few days ago, the British OBSERVER disclosed the contents of a government memorandum stolen from Zaire about U.S. contacts with antigovernment Angolan groups. According to the memo, at a meeting late last November an unnamed U.S. special envoy and three UNITA men discussed ways of destabilizing the Angolan Government, specifically stepping up subversion at factories and on transport, additional shipments of arms for UNITA and the unification of various antigovernment groups. The American envoy promised that the United States would increase financial aid to the rebels and would obstruct the flow of foreign investments to Angola. On the background of all this, Crocker's words about the need of working for peace in the region fail to be convincing, to put it mildly.

America' actions are not restricted to Angola. In Mozambique, for example, an inquiry has revealed the participation of CIA officers in planning a series of political assassinations and in a large-scale operation to destabilize the national economy. In one of the acts of subversion in the Mozambique capital, members of the United States Embassy staff even did the job of homing the attackers in on targets.

Yet the grim experience of Angola is the most graphic demonstration of how the United States, while talking about a striving for peace in the region, provokes conflicts and tried to preserve an atmosphere of tension in its own interests. As the national security adviser to the U.S. President, McFarlane, said at a recent news conference, the developments in some of the African countries, Angola for one, have been unfavorable for the West, and the President studied the issue of what had to be done to reverse them, and indeed the Reagan administration seeks to reverse the situation by destabilizing the governments that it happens to dislike.

In the first days of the Reagan administration, the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE predicted that Angola was the country that would become a touchstone for the White House African policy. This is exactly what has happened. United States involvement in Angola shows the true value of peaceful statements Chester Crocker and other American officials address to the Africans.

U.S. AFRICAN POLICY SEEKS 'ISOLATION, SUBMISSION'

LD310330 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The United States assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Chester Crocker, has finished his visit to South Africa. Now he is on his way to what the United States calls the frontline states in Africa. Our analyst Georgiy Tanov writes that the press and news agencies in the United States have been paying much attention to Crocker's visit, calling it revitalizing and saying it's been designed to solve the complex problems of southern Africa.

However, there is every reason to doubt the affected optimism of the State Department and American [word indistinct]. During President Reagan's three years in office, Chester Crocker has made an unprecedented number of visits to Africa. Formally the visits were called consultations, but in reality they were attempts to impose American-South African solutions of problems in southern Africa on independent African nations, above all the frontline states. Practically all Crocker's visits started in South Africa and then he went to the frontline states, where he used persuasion, blackmail, and threats. So this visit can hardly be an exception, especially because just a few hours before Crocker came, the South African president reaffirmed his country's policy with respect to neighbouring countries.

The American press makes no secret at all about the aims of Crocker's visit. They are to impose an ultimatum on Angola, compelling the Cuban internationalist forces to withdraw from the country, thus leaving the People's Republic of Angola unprotected. Crocker's visit is also to make Angola and other African nations deny their support to the people of Namibia and the South West Africa People's Organization. That's the number one target. THE NEW YORK TIMES has noted with irritation that African nations are incredibly capable of producing common viewpoints, especially in dealing with the gravest problems of southern Africa, and by no mere chance that the emphasis in the United States strategy is on the isolation and submission of the progressive African nations and national liberation movements one by one with the purpose of destroying the strongest of them by military and political means.

All these facts prove that Angola and the South West Africa People's Organization are at the top of Washington's blacklist.

SHULTZ' LATIN AMERICA, CARIBBEAN TRIP PREVIEWED

LD311100 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 31 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyuty reports:

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz today leaves for a nine-day tour of a number of countries in the Caribbean, Central and Latin America. In particular, he will pay visits to Grenada, El Salvador and Barbados.

An official spokesman for the U.S. Administration said at a press conference before the state secretary's departure that the keynote of Shultz's trip would be discussion of questions of the so-called democratisation of the region. However, the true goals of the state secretary's visit are quite the contrary, namely, the further mobilisation of the more reactinary forces of the region to suppress the movement for national independence and genuine democracy that is mounting there.

Shultz will become Washington's first high-ranking official to make a visit to Grenada after the U.S. perfidious act of aggression against that country. He intends to discuss with the puppets from the inglorious "caretaker government" of that country ways for the further enslavement of the Grenadian people and for turning the island into an outpost of U.S. acts of aggression in the Caribbean. The Reagan administration has appropriated 15 million dollars merely to establish a military police force on Grenada.

Washington intends to oppress not only the Grenadians but also the people of other Caribbean states. This is how one can view the fact that during his visit to Barbados Shultz will discuss with the heads of the pro-American regime the establishment of a "Regional Security Force." The administration's spokesman made it clear at the press conference that the police force would be formed along the lines of Washington's interventionist "Rapid Deployment Force." The United States will assume the task of training, arming and maintaining that mobile bandit grouping of puppet troops.

Military aid will be the main item of the agenda of Shultz's talks with the heads of the bloodstained regime of El Salvador. The U.S. Administration, AP points out in this connection, will shortly ask the Congress for additional aid to the tune of 350 million dollars to that country. It is obviously for diversionary reasons that the secretary of state will meet in Venezuela representatives of the member countries of the Contadora Group, seeking a peaceful solution to the problems of the region. The press reports that Shultz will press them for support of the recommendations of the national commission for Central America, which amount to the expansion of the U.S. armed intervention in the affairs of the region.

U.S. SUPPORT FOR GUATEMALAN REGIME CRITICIZED

LD271149 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The Guatemalan Defense Ministry has announced the urgent drafting into the Army of citizens aged 18-30. Here is a Mayak commentary; at the microphone is Viktor Anikin:

What brought about the urgent nature of the military measures by General Oscar Mejia Victore's regime? An answer to that question is provided by reports recently coming in from Guatemala which point to intensification of the Guatemalan patriots' struggle to overthrow the dictatorial regime.

Partisans of the Armed People's Organization and the Guatemalan Poor People's Army have carried out a series of successful combat operations as a result of which the regime's troops suffered considerable casualties. Operations have been extended to the Guatemalan capital where the military police barracks came under attack and 32 people were put out of action. In the Department of San Marcos, a company of punitive troops was wiped out, and in the Department of Quiche, fighters of the Armed People's Organization captured a number of major populated areas and held them for a long period.

It was in this situation that the Guatemalan dictatorship decided to strengthen its shaky support by announcing an urgent draft into the Army. At the same time, it is stepping up its repression against the peaceful population who sympathize with and support the armed struggle of the Guatemalan patriots. According to foreign agency data, from 14-18 January, 350 people were arrested during police searches and flushing-out operations in the capital. More than 18,000 citizens were seized during last year. So-called civil defense patrols -- bandit paramilitary formations who lose nothing in brutality compared with the death squads of El Salvador -- are displaying particular zeal in eliminating opponents of the regime. It was precisely to these civil defense patrols that General Mejia's regime entrusted the job of ensuring that the Constitutional Assembly elections are held in a peaceful manner. They have been arranged for 1 July this year and are being held at the official request of Washington, which needs the appearance of democratic changes in Guatemala to increase its military aid to the regime. Even now one may imagine the atmosphere of fear and terror in which these pseudoelections will be held if criminals from bandit formations are responsible for their conduct.

A number of Guatemalan politicians have resolutely demanded from the Mejia dictatorship that the civil defense patrols be dissolved, and that the United States end its interference in Guatemala's internal affairs. Over the past 30 years, stated the leadership of the Social Democratic Party of Guatemala the other day, Washington has supported the most reactionary circles of the Guatemalan Army, and it is precisely Washington that is directly responsible for the tragedy that our country has suffered.

U.S. 'BLOODY ADVENTURE' IN GRENADA CASTIGATED

LD290804 Moscow TASS in English 0701 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 29 TASS -- "Mass-scale genocide, the cynical flouting of generally recognized standards of international law, of civil liberties, and of basic notions of humanity -- this is what the American 'new order' spells for Central American and Caribbean countries," PRAVDA's correspondent in Havana Pavel Bogomolov, said in a dispatch published today.

The black night of occupation has descended on the island of spices, as Grenada was called by Columbus way back in 1498. "The bloody adventure of the Washington administration has taken a toll of hundreds of lives. In the course of just a few weeks, 206 Grenadians died from gunshot wounds in the city hospital of Saint George's alone."

In the very first days of the American intervention which was launched on October 25, 1983, U.S. "Rangers" and Marines arrested over two thousand supporters of the system of people's government. "Just ponder this figure: two thousand political prisoners in a tiny country with an overall population of merely 110,000," Bogomolov said.

Occupation troops are arresting not only members of the New Jewel Movement but also troops of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Grenada and People's Militia as well as former workers of nationalized enterprises and cooperatives who are sympathetic to that party.

But neither repression nor scorched earth tactics have been able to produce the desired results as people in Grenada are continuing their struggle to get occupation troops out of their country and restore their national independence and sovereignty. A revolutionary underground movement is becoming more active in the country, and shoot-outs with punitive troops are frequent in mountainous areas. Peggy Nasfield, former official of the Grenadian Finance Ministry, said that even the bourgeoisie, which at first had welcomed the interventionists rapturously, was not irritated by the rudeness with which the Americans were ruling the country.

The PRAVDA correspondent said that defying the risk of being arrested, hundreds of Grenadians are still carrying badges with portraits of late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, carefully keeping his pamphlets and books, and plastering posters, featuring portraits of the leader of the Grenadian revolution, in nighttime on fronts of buildings.

GRENADA AMBASSADOR JACOBS LEAVES MOSCOW 27 JAN

LD271013 Moscow TASS in English 0756 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS -- Ambassador of Grenada to the USSR Wilfred Richard Jacobs has left Moscow today.

Closes Moscow Embassy

FL271300 Bridgetown CANA in English 1059 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow, Jan 27, (CANA-REUTER) -- Grenada's Embassy in Moscow closed its doors today as the ambassador, an opponent of the U.S.-led invasion of his country, left the Soviet Union. The official Soviet news agency TASS said Ambassador Richard Jacobs had left. There was no reference to his destination nor to the customary Foreign Ministry farewell lunch for departing ambassadors. The telephone at the embassy was answered by an employee of the Soviet diplomatic service directorate who said the embassy was closed and there was no indication when it would reopen.

Moscow condemned the invasion of Grenada as an act of barbarism and accused President Reagan of trying to install a puppet government on the tiny Caribbean island. Ambassador Jacobs, who monitored reports of the invasion from a Moscow hospital bed where he was being treated for gout, had predicted that it would turn into a repeat of the abortive "Bay of Pigs" invasion of Cuba in 1961. The entire diplomatic staff of the Moscow Embassy consisted of Jacobs and Counsellor Bernard Bourne.

KHALILOV DELEGATION TO VENEZUELA FOR INAUGURATION

LD291415 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] A Soviet delegation, headed by Comrade Khalilov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow for Venezuela today, to take part in the ceremonies marking the inauguration of Lusinchi, the country's new president.

POLITBURO DISCUSSES STOCKHOLM TALKS, OTHER ISSUES

PM301006 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 84 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee Politburo"]

[Text] The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee has considered at its regular meeting a number of issues of domestic and foreign policies.

The Politburo has wholly and completely supported the points made by Yuriy Andropov in his answers to questions asked by the newspaper PRAVDA on January 25, 1984. It was stressed that those answers reflected in full the principled line of the foreign policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and put forward a complex of large-scale measures aimed at achieving practical agreements on the freezing, limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security, and at improving the international situation as a whole.

The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee heard and approved as its meeting Comrade Andrey Gromyko's account of the work of the Soviet delegation to the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures, and Disarmament in Europe, of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Warsaw Treaty member countries in Stockholm, and also of his conversations with the U.S. secretary of state and the foreign ministers of a number of other countries.

The Politburo noted that the Stockholm conference provided broad possibilities for those states who were seeking peace in Europe to show their goodwill. In the present-day perceptibly worsened international situation, the Soviet Union, following its principled line of lessening the threat of war and consolidating the foundations of peace and detente, together with its allies put forward at the conference major initiatives aimed at creating an atmosphere of trust, gravely subverted as a consequence of the militarist course of the United States and particularly the deployment of U.S. first-strike missiles in the territories of certain NATO countries.

If all the nuclear powers assumed the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, as the USSR and its allies suggest, and if the NATO countries agreed to the proposal of the Warsaw Treaty states that military force should not be used at all against one another, the degree of trust and security in Europe and all over the world would grow substantially.

In addition, the Soviet Union is prepared, by way of furthering the relevant provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, to work out additional confidence-building measures in the military field which would be more significant and extensive. The Stockholm conference will be able to justify the hopes pinned on it by the peoples of Europe and by the broad sections of the public if all the participants in it display a sense of responsibility and political will for businesslike negotiations. Time will show to what extent the Western countries actually want fruitful work and constructive dialogue.

In view of the results of the work last year, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo outlined a range of key problems of party, state and economic development and ideological and foreign policy issues which are to be reviewed this year by the party's central bodies.

Emphasis is laid here on improving the economic mechanism, on perfecting the levers and stimuli of economic growth, on carrying out comprehensive economic and social development programs on the communist education of the working people, on raising the standards of work in primary party organizations, on the activities of different components of our political system and on enhancing law, order and discipline. The Politburo and the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat will constantly concentrate on questions of selecting, deploying and educating personnel, on raising their responsibility, on improving the style and methods of work, on organising the practical implementation of party directives and on enhancing control over their fulfillment.

The Politburo heard the information of Comrades Konstantin Chernenko and Boris Ponomarev about their meeting at the CPSU Central Committee with a delegation of the Communist Party of Israel led by M. Vilner, general secretary of the party's Central Committee.

The Politbureau reviewed at its meeting some other questions of party and state life and made decisions concerning them.

IZVESTIYA CARRIES SERIES ON LENIN'S LAST DAYS

WA301200 [Editorial report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 through 23 January 1984 Morning Edition carries on page 3 (page 2 on 23 January) a narrative in four 1,500-word parts by Yegor Yakovlev under the rubric "The Sad January of '24", devoted to the 60th anniversary of Lenin's death.

Part one, headed "Refusing to Succumb" [Derzhal Dushu za Krylya], opens with a brief description of Lenin's first days as chairman of the Council of People's Commissars in Moscow in March 1918, and goes on.

"Vladimir Ilich did not know how to be ill. Or rather he had never learned how, because he was seldom extremely ill. While in Petersburg he suffered an inflammation of the lungs, and at that time Mariya Aleksandrovna came from Moscow to look after her son. The exceptional pressures of the second party Congress resulted in a serious illness -- inflammation of the nerve roots. One of the emigres, a medical student who had not completed his studies, advised Krupskaya to daub her husband with iodine, which caused Vladimir Ilich much suffering. 'It did not even occur to us to see an English doctor, because we would have had to pay one guinea," Krupskaya wrote. After that time Vladimir Ilich repeated laughingly on many occasions that, in regard to treatment, it is better not to have anything to do with doctor-revolutionaries... and in the fall of 1918, when he was gravely injured, he got up on the 6th day, disregarding advice."

Having quoted G.A. Krzhizhanovskiy's recollections of what Lenin said on the subject of health during exile in Siberia, Yakovlev continues.

"Yes, he was healthy. He did not expect illness to creep up on him; he could not and would not accept it, and rebelled against the restrictions prescribed by the doctors. He was so irritable that Nadezhda Konstantinova, trying to calm her husband, kept saying; you must be patient, 'you must look on this illness as a form of imprisonment.' The nurse was indignant on hearing such a comparison. But Krupskaya knew her husband's nature. Having spent over a year in solitary confinement, Vladimir Ilich accepted this as inevitable, and organized his life and work in a strict businesslike fashion. At that time Nadezhda Konstantinovna persuaded him to 'endure his illness as cheerfully as he had endured prison earlier.'

"Everything started, as it normally happens, with what seemed to be a mere trifle in March 1922. Vladimir Ilich got out of bed and suddenly felt dizzy.

He grabbed hold of a nearby chest and barely managed to keep his balance. Even so, the symptoms seemed so insignificant that the doctors were not unduly concerned. Soon however, on 25 May 1922, a new attack occurred. These were the consequences of the base attempt on his life, the almost deadly injury caused by poisoned bullets. The blood supply to the brain was disrupted. 'It was a rare battle in medical history, between a mighty brain and the illness corroding it, 'N.A. Semashko wrote. No one was able to retreat in this deadly battle.

"Vladimir Ilich tried to explain to the doctors that he was not fully in control of himself. That was why he was unable to fully obey their instructions to stop the constant thought process, in the same way as man cannot stop breathing. 'You see, they (and even I myself) cannot prevent me from thinking,' he complained to Nadezhada Konstantinovna. He said; 'Instead of work, they have suggested that I have an hour or two of light conversation with good friends. They do not understand that 2 hours of conversation with foreign representatives will tire me less and will give me more benefit and pleasure than a brief friendly chat.' Vladimir Ilich was no longer getting out of bed and the doctors, seeing how depressed he was, allowed him to meet with the comrades, but only provided that not a single word was said about politics. The doctors left, and he murmured sadly: 'What strange people, to think that politicians, meeting after a long separation can talk about anything else but politics.'

"Lenin's relatives understood that the doctors' recommendations, which might have been good for some patients, were not doing him any good. In response to the request that Vladimir Ilich be fully isolated from all news, Krupskaya wrote 23 December 1922: "I know better than any doctor what can and what cannot be told to Ilich, in other words I know what perturbs him and what does not...'"

Mentioning briefly the few occasions when Lenin was forced to submit to medical treatment, Yakovlev writes:

"In one of his first interviews after October, replying to a Swedish newspaper correspondents' question about his health, he said that he felt wonderful despite the vast burden of work, which left him almost no time for sleep. 'I have only one desire,' he said, 'to rest, if only for half an hour....' His was a personality that did not know the limits of its own strength; it was quite a different matter how long this strength would last."

Yakovlev concludes part one by extolling Lenin's personal characteristics and ends by quoting gorkiy: "The duty of honest leaders of the people is inhumanly difficult."

In part two, headed "Farewell," Yakovlev writes about 12 December 1922, the last day Lenin spent in his Kremlin office, and says: "When a man departs forever, crossing the threshold into eternity, much of what has happened toward the end of his life -- his last words, meetings, and gestures -- acquire with the passage of time a special, and at times fateful, meaning. One of Lenin's last official letters began with the following words: "I have now finished winding up my affairs and can depart with an easy mind."

The author briefly describes Lenin's last public speech at the November 1922 Plenum of the Moscow Soviet, and continues:

"Actually, things in life are simpler, or at least more natural. It was not in Vladimir Ilich's nature to write highly significant lines which could be interpreted one way or another, or to make any gestures of farewell -- no, that was not his nature. He wrote about winding up his affairs because the doctors insisted on his re resting, but he reserved the right to speak at the 10th all-Russian Congress of Soviets and tried to relieve himself of everything else.

Speaking at the Moscow Soviet Plenum, he spoke of what had concerned him lately -- how to move on from the Russia of the New Economic Policy period and build a socialist Russia. On the day of the Comintern Congress -- it was a beautiful day and feelings were running high -- he simply smiled at the movie camera operator and raised his hand in greeting. No, these episodes in no way indicate some exceptional state of Vladimir Ilich's mind; they simply show that in the very last days he was the same as always -- immersed in work. Immersed to such an extent, that he could have repeated the phrase spoken once in a fit of temper: '...if I had to deal face to face or on the telephone with everything that I have to sign, I would have gone crazy long ago.'

"Even after 12 December, when illness approached irreversibly and he was finally tied to his bed, Vladimir Ilich continued to think about business. He still hoped to speak at the 10th all-Russian congress of soviets and was not afraid to look a few months ahead and think of what he would say to the delegates at the 12th party congress.... He was not fated to do this. That was the time when Vladimir Ilich said that he would like to dictate his 'diary,' hoping that the innocuous term would slip by the doctors' vigilance. He was refused permission. Lenin issued an ultimatum: either he would be allowed to dictate, even for a short period, or he would totally refuse treatment.

"One phrase, perhaps, shows that he was better aware of his state and of what lay in store for him than those around him imagined. In August 1918, shortly after he was wounded, when no one could hazard a guess about the outcome, he asked doctor B.S. Veysbrod: 'Is the end near? If it is, tell me the truth so that I don't leave any business behind.' Now he hold one of his secretaries: "We must hurry so that illness does not catch us unawares.' And he started dictating letters and articles, what we now call V.I. Lenin's last letters and articles.

"There are not many of them: 'Letter to the Congress,' 'On the Question of Nationalities, or on "Autonomization",' 'Pages From the Diary,' 'On Cooperation,' 'On Our Revolution,' 'How We Should Reorganize the Worker-Peasants Inspectorate,' 'Better Less, But Better.' We call these documents Lenin's testament to the party and the people."

Yakovlev then looks at these articles and quotes salient points -- Lenin's concern with the status of people's teachers in socialist society, his advice to the 12th party congress to adopt "a number of changes in our political system" by increasing the number of Central Committee members and "to work seriously on improving our apparatus and prevent the conflicts between small sections of the Central Committee from becoming incommensurately significant for the entire fate of the party." Continuing his work right into January, the author says, Lenin "strove to disclose the strong and weak aspects of Central Committee members," and was concerned with giving legislative functions to the Gosplan. He writes that Lenin "managed to refute I.V. Stalin's position on the 'autonomization' of the republics" in his article "On the Question of Nationalities and on 'Autonomization'", and stresses Lenin's concern with practical matters and the value and significance of his writings of that time.

Yakovlev begins the third part of his article, titled "Death," by describing the village of Gorki where Lenin was taken in mid-May 1923 and where he lived until his death, citing statements on the way of life there made by Lenin and Krupskaya. He goes on:

"Now in the summer of 1923, life had to be lived in a different way, subordinating everything to Vladimir Ilich's health, or rather to his illness.

"Veteran Bolshevik M.V. Fofanova -- it was with her that Lenin was hiding on the eve of October -- told me how she met Mariya Ilinichna Ulyanova at Vozdvizhenka in the summer of 1923. She started asking about Ilich's health and whether the doctors were hopeful. Vladimir Ilich was better, he was able to move by himself, but there was one misfortune: a wheel chair was needed and could not be found. Mariya Ilinichna went to a well-to-do home which had advertised a fully suitable chair for sale, but she did not have the kind of money they were asking. Fofanova was at that time working with Krzhizhanovskiy and, going back to him, told him of her meeting with Ulyanova. Gleb Maksimilianovich telephoned Dzerzhinskiy: 'Feliks Edmundovich, how can we find the means to get hold of this wheelchair?'... On her day off, Fafanova made her way to Gorki. Quietly, so as not to disturb Vladimir Ilich, she observed him: he was seated in a wicker chair with large, almost bicycle-sized wheels with rubber tires. It was in that chair that Mariya Ilinichna photographed her brother -- the last photos of him.

"In the evenings Nadezhda Konstantinovna read to her husband from books he selected. Vladimir Ilich remained 'until the time of his death the same as he was before, a man with enormous will power,' Krupskaya wrote. He could not bear to be distracted. Just as before, he was concerned with people -- those who were at that time within his field of vision, doctors and nurses. 'He read the newspapers daily, right up to the day of his death, PRAVDA to start with, and then IZVESTIYA. He was thinking about going back to work and never let himself drop off to sleep after dinner or even consented to sit in a soft chair.'

"He did not allow anything to be altered or changed in that former manor house, and he looked on it as a state-owned sanatorium. The only thing that was done was to install a second bannister on the staircase leading up. Lenin used to hold on to it with his good hand. That was already in the fall, when things seemed to be on the mend. He would get up and overcome the illness; many believed this, even his relatives and even the doctors, although their professional experience indicated otherwise."

The remainder of the third part describes Lenin's last days.

The last installment is titled "Memory." Yakovlev writes at length about Lenin's funeral and the steps taken to commemorate his life and work, quoting from Krupskaya's appeal published by PRAVDA: "I have a great request to make: Do not let your grief for Ilich spill into external worship of his personality. Do not build any monuments to him, do not name any palaces after him, do not organize splendid festivities and so on in his memory. In his life he considered all that so insignificant he was so burdened by it all."

The author concludes by outlining the significance of Lenin's life and work example today.

CPSU'S ROMANOV GIVES LENINGRAD CEREMONIAL SPEECH

PM301315 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report; "Feat of Courage and Glory: Ceremonial Meeting in Leningrad Devoted to the 40th Anniversary of the Complete Liberation of the City from the Enemy Blockade and the Presentation of the Order of the October Revolution to Leningrad Oblast"]

[Excerpt] Leningrad, 27 Jan -- The Leningraders' immortal feat is inscribed in gold letters in the annals of the Great Patriotic War.

The 900-day defense of Lenin's city was an unparalleled epic of courage and staunchness which vividly demonstrated the great vital force of the socialist system and showed the whole world what the Soviet person, educated by the Communist Party, is capable of.

A ceremonial meeting of the Leningrad Obkom and Gorkom, Oblispolkom, and Gorispolkom together with representatives of the working people and servicemen from the Leningrad garrison devoted to the 40th anniversary of the complete liberation of the city from the enemy blockade and the presentation of the Order of the October Revolution to Leningrad Oblast was held in Leningrad today.

On the presidium were G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, members of the obkom bureau, and secretaries of Leningrad Gorkom. Here too were delegates from the hero cities who had arrived for the celebrations, the defenders of the Neva, military leaders, veterans of the party, war, and labor, frontrunners in socialist competition, personalities in science and culture, and representatives of the public.

An honorary presidium consisting of the Politburo of the Leninist CPSU Central Committee was elected with enthusiasm.

A speech was delivered by Comrade G.V. Romanov, who was greeted warmly by those present.

Addressing those who took part in the Great Patriotic War and the defense of Leningrad, party and labor veterans, and all the Leningraders, he said: People of the older gernation remember well what happened exactly four decades ago in the trenches, in the forward positions, in the factory shops, and in the city streets when the radio brought the long-awaited news: Leningrad has been completely liberated from the enemy blockade!

People had awaited that day. It was preceded by 900 incredibly difficult days and nights of blockade, days and nights of an unprecedented nature. Our valiant servicemen and workers in the rear brought it closer. The whole world awaited the outcome of the battle for Leningrad, a battle which was destined to be one of the most graphic symbols of the worldwide historical victory over Hitlerite fascism.

Many thousands of Soviet people made a last-ditch stand at the walls of the Neva stronghold and defended the birthplace of the Great October. Their hearts, their combat and labor feats are with us here today.

On behalf of the party's Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Soviet Government, G.V. Romanov warmly congratulated all the Leningraders on the noteworthy date -- the 40th anniversary of the complete defeat of the Hitlerite troops at Leningrad.

One active participant in the Great Patriotic War, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the party's Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, sends cordial greetings and congratulations to all of you who defended Lenin's city, to all who lived and fought in the besieged city and who restored it and are augmenting its glory today, he said.

Yuriy Vladimirovich asked that you be told that the remarkable traditions of the people of Petrograd-Leningrad, their courage in the terrible war years, their selfless postwar labor, their spiritual strength and patriotism, set an example of boundless devotion to the ideas of October, Lenin's behests, and the party's cause.

Please accept, dear comrades, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's best wishes in life and labor!

The events of the Great Patriotic War are receding even further from us. But years are powerless to eclipse the bitterness of the losses or the greatness of the battles won which led implacably to the victorious May of 1945.

Thousands of books have been written about that war. All the same, it is apposite today to recall certain facts and lessons of history. Fascist Germany, having transferred industrial production onto a war footing, prepared for war against the Soviet Union first and foremost economically. It is well known that the human reserves and material resources of the European countries occupied by Hitler alone nearly doubled the economic and military might of the fascist Reich. But he also prepared for war ideologically, poisoning his people's souls with the venom of savage racial prejudices and justifying the German monopolists' predatory claims in terms of the notorious theory of "lebensraum."

These theories, like the idea of the lightning war or "blitzkrieg," were finally laid to rest by the Soviet people and our valiant Armed Forces -- and some people ought to remember well this lesson of history!

The defeat of the fascist German troops at Moscow in the winter of 1941-1942 shook Germany by dispelling the myth of the "invincibility" of Hitler's troops. A year later, this was followed by a new, crushing defeat on the banks of the Volga and in the foothills of the Caucasus. The collapse of a major Wehrmacht grouping in the Battle of Stalingrad enabled the Soviet Army to wrest the strategic initiative from the enemy and hold on to in until the victorious end. In the subsequent battles at Kurst and on the Dnepr the Hitlerites' offensive intentions suffered total defeat.

We call the Great Patriotic War a people's war, a sacred war. From the first battles on the border to the storming of Berlin, the Soviet soldier marched steadily and inexorably toward the Great Victory. That path was incredibly hard. The war subjected our social, state, and political system to a severe, all-around trial, and it withstood every test with honor. The victory over the enemy was natural, because the Armed Forces' actions were backed by the entire economic might of the Soviet state.

The creator of the victory was the great Soviet people, who demonstrated to the whole world their revolutionary endurance, monolithic ideological commitment, iron will, and mass heroism. Our victory was natural, because the struggle against the aggressor was headed by the Communist Party -- the tried and tested political leader, tempered in class battles, of Soviet society!

One outstanding feat which confirmed these conclusions was the unparalleled defense of Leningrad. The Hitlerite command attached special significance to the mastery of the city on the Neva. The implementation not only of the aggressors' strategic plans, but of important political plans was associated with the city's fall. They intended to wipe the birthplace of the proletarian revolution off the face of the earth, wipe out its population, and thereby inflict an irremediable moral defeat on the motherland of October.

The battle for Lenin's city lasted more than 3 years. For more than 3 years Leningrad remained a fighter city, a front city. Death lay in wait for the city's inhabitants every moment. But although cut off from the rest of the country, they did not fight alone. The motherland was with Leningrad. The motherland hurried to its aid. The party's Central Committee and the State Committee for Defense did all that was possible, all that the country was capable of, to supply the besieged city with weapons and ammunition, food and medical supplies, did all they could to help Lenin's city to stand fast!

Leningraders remember January 1943, when, after 6 days of fierce fighting, the ring of the enemy blockade was broken. This operation, symbolically named "Iskra" [Spark], was the prelude to further offensive operations, for which the watchword was the magic word "Victory!" -- operations which led to the final routing of the enemy at Leningrad.

The battle for Leningrad, which embraced practically the whole northwest of our country, was of tremendous political, economic, and strategic significance. From here, from this salient, the Soviet troops' path lay ahead -- toward the liberation of Belorussia, the Baltic republics, and the countries of Central Europe.

The annals of the feat at the walls of the Neva stronghold preserve the names of prominent military and party leaders. Many of those present here, the speaker said, took part in the fighting on the Luga front and the Oraniyenbaum bridgehead, the Neva "strip," and the Pulkovo heights. Also in this hall are those who routed the fascist troops at Tikhivin and Volkhov, those who went into the attack in other salients of the defense of Leningrad. We see here the heroes of air battles and the seamen, the tank and artillery men, the signals men and the sappers, servicemen from all categories of troops of our valient armed forces. Here we see former underground fighters and partisans who operated fearlessly in the enemy's rear.

The motherland values highly the feat of the heroes of the battle for Leningrad, the feat of the war veterans, and of all who fulfilled their sacred duty to the fatherland.

The soul of the city's defense, the cementing force behind the rebuttal of the enemy was the Leningrad party organization. G.V. Romanov stressed its tremendous mobilizing role at all stages of the Neva stronghold's heroic struggle against the fascist hordes.

With its mighty industry, its tempered working class, and its militant party organization, the city was the main arsenal for the troops who defended it. In incredibly difficult conditions, in cold, dark workshops, tanks were assembled, guns and mortars were manufactured, warships were repaired, ammunition and equipment were produced. The workers' day-to-day exploits were the equivalent of military valor. The Leningrad scientists' research did not stop. Artistic masterpieces from world famous museums and unique scientific collections which are to this day not only the pride of Soviet science and culture, but a valued asset of all mankind were carefully saved from destruction.

Leningrad's women accomplished a feat of labor, unparalleled valor, great love, and tremendous charity. The children of the blockaded city, sharing the adults' lot and sufferings, drank in their spirit of indomitability.

Patriotism has always been characteristic of Soviet people. During the terrible days of the war, everything new and invaluable that was created and cultivated by the party and by the Soviet system was manifested still more clearly in the nature of the rebuttal of the aggressor, the way efforts were organized, and the unity and cohesion of everyone -- great and small.

The birthplace of October was defended by the entire country, by the sons and daughters of all republics, nations, and ethnic groups of our great motherland. The defenders of the Neva stronghold drew the strength to fight, work, and endure all their griefs and adversities from their boundless love for the fatherland, their own people, and the great Leninist party. They stood firm and conquered!

Together with the whole country, the Leningraders have a right to be proud not only of combat feats, but of labor feats. Each of the postwar 5-year plans was a new step forward, a new stage of growth for the working people of the city and oblast, as for all Soviet people.

The press today publishes the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on the award of the Order of the October Revolution to Leningrad Oblast.

This is a well earned award to those who routed the fascists on the approaches to Leningrad, those who restored with their own hands the city and the settlements, the unique architectural monuments and structural harmonies, those who today build plants, plow land and smelt metal, grow crops, and enhance livestock productivity here.

Please accept, dear comrades, cordial congratulations on the award to Leningrad Oblast of the order which bears in its center the silhouette of the legendary cruiser "Avrora"!

Over the centuries the fortress of Kronshtadt, that glorious city, has watched uninterruptedly over the sea gates of the city on the Neva. For its revolutionary, combat, and labor services to the motherland and in connection with the 40th anniversary of Leningrad's complete liberation from the enemy blockade during the Great Patriotic War, Kronshtadt has been awarded the Order of the Red Banner.

The whole country knows that city. It was one of the Bolshevik party's reliable bulwarks in the period of the October Revolution. The defenders of the maritime fortress did great service during the last war too.

The people of Kronshtadt are today working successfully to implement the 11th 5-Year Plan targets and the party's plans. Together with all the Leningraders, they are accelerating the commissioning of the unique protective installations which will reliably defend the city on the Neva against flooding.

G.V. Romanov congratulated order-bearing Kronshtadt on the high award and wished the people of Kronshtadt new achievements to the motherland's glory.

The speaker went on to dwell in detail upon the tasks set by the Communist Party and the Soviet state for the Leningraders in developing the economy, science, and culture. Substantial work must be done, he said, to ensure that the key avenues of the Leningrad Communists' activity serve the country's interests in the best possible way and still more effectively.

The face of Leningrad Oblast has changed beyond recognition. Everywhere, G.V. Romanov said, we can see great positive changes hardly to be compared with the first postwar 5-year plans, or indeed, even with the scale of the economic and social tasks which were being resolved only 10-15 years ago.

The working people of Leningrad and the oblast coped successfully with targets for the first 3 years of the current 5-year plan. At the same time still more crucial matters and still more complex tasks lie ahead.

These are defined in the resolution of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the instructions in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech. On the basis of the results achieved, these instructions strengthen the confidence of Communists and all Soviet people in the realism of our plans and the possibility of implementing them unconditionally. To this end it is important, above all, not to lose the pace gained and the general positive mood for action.

The party's course of improving developed socialism affects all spheres of the activity of party, soviet, and economic organs, trade unions, the Komsomol, and all sectors of our public life. A special role in the practical implementation of this course belongs to ensuring the further dynamic development and enhancement of the efficiency of production, with a view to strengthening in every way the Soviet state's might and increasing the people's well-being.

The resolution of these tasks must be the aim pursued by the fuller utilization of the scientific and technical potential of Leningrad's economy. The party has repeatedly entrusted you with the fulfillment of difficult targets. And you have fulfilled them with honor. Today many labor collectives in the city on the Neva are charged with conducting large-scale economic experiments which are intended to promote the development of the economic machinery with which the country will enter the 12th 5-Year Plan. We are confident that this work too will be done with party and state interests in mind.

G.V. Romanov went on to focus the Leningraders' attention on the current tasks and unutilized reserves. There are many of these in industrial and agricultural production, capital construction and transport, and the service sphere. The report and election meetings held recently in the oblast party organization showed that Communists and gorkoms and raykoms are aware of that fact and are focusing their efforts on further increasing production efficiency.

In the conditions of the scientific and technical revolution, ever increasing significance is attached to saving public labor. It is very important today to strive for high results not only through the commissioning of new capital, but -- more important -- through the better utilization of existing capacities, through increasing the shift coefficient of equipment use, and through increasing the return on every ruble invested in the national economy, every ton of metal, fuel, cement, or fertilizer.

Within the mainstream of the demands of the party's Central Committee, questions of strengthening discipline and organization and increasing everyone's personal responsibility for the area of work entrusted to him are given fundamental importance in the production and sociopolitical life of the city and oblast. It is necessary to continue to strengthen the unity of words and deeds and to firmly and consistently complete what has been begun.

The Leningraders have adopted intensive socialist pledges for the 4th year of the 5-year plan. The emphasis is correct: ensure the above-plan growth of labor productivity, the additional reduction of the prime cost of output, and the improvement of its quality. Together with all the Soviet people, you are moving toward the USSR Supreme Soviet elections with firm determination to fulfill all that is planned, thereby demonstrating your activieness and maturity in implementing the CPSU's economic and social policy.

The party's Central Committee is confident that the working people of the hero city of Leningrad and twice-decorated Leningrad Oblast, developing the Soviet people's glorious revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions, will make a fitting contribution to the implementation of the decisions of the Leninist party's 26th congress!

G.V. Romanov went on to dwell on certain questions of the international situation. He said that in the answers to questions from the newspaper PRAVDA published the other day, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, having provided a due rebuttal to the U.S. Administration's attempts to conduct talks with us from a position of strength, again pointed out that the broad package of Soviet proposals and initiatives aimed at strenghthening peace and international security retain their topicality. Lenin's party will continue to tirelessly strengthen solidarity with the fraternal parties and all fighters against the war threat and to do everything to preserve the life of present and future generations.

At the same time, we cannot and have no right to forget that the danger of war has not been eliminated. Therefore one of the constant concerns of the party's Central Committee, the Soviet Government, and all the people is to further strengthen our motherland's defense might.

The celebration of the 40th anniversary of Leningrad's complete liberation from the enemy blockade has coincided with another noteworthy date -- the 60th anniversary of Petrograd being renamed Leningrad. It is pertinent to recall that it was here, in Petrograd, that the great Lenin presided at the birth of the Red Army. He pointed out that the creation of a socialist army inspired by the ideas of the struggle for working people's liberation will make the land of the soviets invincible.

Following Lenin's behest, the party's Central Committee and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov consider it their sacred obligation to do everything to maintain the country's defense might at a level safeguarding the Soviet people's peaceful labor, their confidence in the future, and our socialist fatherland's high mobilization readiness.

Here, in the city that was Great October's birthplace, G.V. Romanov said in conclusion, we express firm confidence that the Leningraders will continue to display revolutionary vigilance and to strengthen by their selfless labor the economic and defense might of the Soviet Union -- the bastion of peace and social progress on earth!

G.V. Romanov read out the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on the award of the Order of the October Revolution to Leningrad Oblast and, to prolonged applause from those present, fastened the motherland's lofty award to the oblast's banner.

L.N. Zaykov, first secretary of Leningrad Obkom, took the floor. Each of us present in this hall, every Leningrader, and all who defended Lenin's city in the terrible war years now experience profound feelings of sincere joy, he said. Another award from the motherland, the Order of the October Revolution, has just begun to shine on our oblast's banner alongside the Order of Lenin.

On behalf of the participants in the session and all the city's and oblast's working people, the speaker expressed warm gratitude to the party's Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium for the high assessment of the Leningraders' military and labor deeds.

We are especially moved by and proud of the cordial greetings and warm congratulations from Comrade Yu.V. Andropv, the speaker went on. Soviet people associate the name of Yuriy Valdimirovich, that outstanding leader of the Leninist type, inextricably with the consistent, purposeful course of our party and state within the country and in the international arena and with achievements in strengthening the might of October's motherland and increasing the people's well-being.

Meets Party Officials

PM301704 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 84 First Edition p 2

[TASS Report under the rubric: "Enhancing Work Efficiency"]

[Text] Leningrad -- G.V. Romanov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is in Leningrad for the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the city's complete liberation from enemy blockade, met in the Smolnyy today with members of the obkom bureau, secretaries of the Leningrad Gorkom, and first secretaries of Leningrad city and oblast gorkoms and raykoms.

Comrade Romanov stressed that -- in accordance with the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee December (1982) Plenum and the instructions in the speech by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee -- relying on the results achieved, it is important to consolidate positive tendencies in the development of the economy, not to lose the pace gathered or the general positive mood for work. He noted the need to raise the effectiveness and quality of all work, the pace of technological and scientific progress and to use more fully the production and scientific potential and all kinds of resources.

Lays Memorial Wreath

LD271327 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Today we are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the lifting of the enemy siege on the Hero-City of Leningrad. A solemn mourning ceremony was held today at the Piskarevskoye Memorial. A wreath from the CPSU Central Committee was laid at the mother-homeland monument by Comrade Romanov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

ESTONIAN, BELORUSSIAN OFFICIALS APPOINTED

PM271015 [Editorial Report] Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 18 January 1984 carries on page 4 a 150-word unattributed report under the heading "Chronicle" that Georgiy Karlovich Kimask has been relieved of his duty as chief of the Estonian SSR Central Statistical Administration "in connection with retirement on pension at his request," and that Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zamakhin has been appointed to replace him. It is also reported that the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau has expressed the G.K. Kimask "thanks for his years of conscientious work in party and soviet organs."

Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 20 January 1984 front-pages an unattributed 100-word report that Viktor Grigoryevich Makarov has been appointed Belorussian SSR prosecutor.

ESTONIAN RAYKOMS ELECT FIRST SECRETARIES

WA271130 [Editorial Report] Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian carries a report of elections for Estonian rayons throughout December. Elections of first secretaries were reported on the following dates: On 1 Dec 83: D. Popov - Kalininskiy Raykom. On 4 Dec 83: L. Puksa - Tartuskiy Raykom; V. Busel - Oktyabrskiy Raykom (A. Ingerman was listed as first secretary of this raykom on 13 Dec 83); K. Benno - Morskiy Raykom; V. Roosmaa - Paydeskiy Raykom; E. Peek - Khapsaluskiy Raykom; A. Kyuta - Yyegevaskiy Raykom. On 11 Dec 83: M. Leosk - Pylavskiy Raykom; M. Kolosov - Valgaskiy Raykom; Yu. Ryaym - Kingiseppskiy Raykom; R. Elvak - Vilyandiskiy Raykom. On 18 Dec 83: S. Koht - Kharyuskiy Raykom; V. Udam - Pyarnuskiy Raykom; A. Myanniste - Vyruskiy Raykom; Yu. Kiysla - Kohtla-Yarveskiy Raykom; Kh. Eller - Khiyumaaskiy Raykom.

LITHUANIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OFFICIAL NAMED

WA271530 [Editorial Report] Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian on 10 December 83 carried on page 3 an announcement appointing Vytautas Vladovich Sakalauskas first deputy chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Council of Ministers and freeing Ksaveras Kostovich Kayris from his duties as first deputy chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Council of Ministers in connection with his retirement.

LITHUANIAN RAYKOM FIRST SECRETARIES ELECTED

WA271500 [Editorial Report] Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian in several December 1983 issues carried reports on Lithuanian SSR gorkom and raykom conferences which listed newly elected gorkom and raykom first secretaries.

The 17 December issue on pages 1, 3 listed the following: Kaunasskiy Gorkom -- R. Rimaytis; Radvilishkskiy Raykom -- P. Shidlauskas; Vilkavishkskiy Raykom -- V. Kurmis; Zarasayskiy Raykom -- P. Chunderov; Yonavskiy Raykom -- E. Prikhodskis; Kaunasskiy Raykom -- V. Sneshka; Kedaynskiy Raykom -- V. Povilauskas; Mazheyskskiy Raykom -- S. Gedraytis; Plungeskiy Raykom -- D. Obrikene.

The 18 December issue on page 1 listed the following: Kretingskiy Raykom -- V. Kubilyus; Prenaiskiy Raykom -- I. Mintauchkis; Raseynskiy Raykom -- A. Baranauskas; Tauragskiy Raykom -- Yu. Imbrasas; Shvenchyonskiy Raykom -- V. Purvanetskayte.

The 24 December issue on pages 1-2 listed the following: Anikshchskiy Raykom -- I. Pesetskas; Rokishkskiy Raykom -- V. Asachyev; Vilnyusskiy Raykom -- A. Smirnov; Klaypedskiy Raykom -- V. Sturis; Ionishkskiy Raykom -- A. Gushchinas.

The 25 December issue on pages 1-2 listed the following: Kupishkskiy Raykom -- S. Tamoshyunas; Panevezhskiy Raykom -- R. Dabkyavichyus; Pasvalskiy Raykom -- S. Bartkus; Ukmergskiy Raykom -- R. Petrushkyavichyus.

NECESSITY OF DELIVERY DISCIPLINE REVIEWED

PM251636 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 January 1984 First Edition front-pages a 1,200-word editorial under the headline "Fulfilling Duty to Partners" on the importance of good delivery discipline for the harmonious working of industry as a whole. Enterprises of the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Ministry of the Coal Industry, and the Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, and in the power machine building industries are criticized for nonfulfillment of orders and the machine-building ministries are criticized for permitting a number of their enterprises to underfulfill contracts. Ways of improving matters -- based on successful enterprises' experience -- such as improving transportation organization, organizing direct links between partners, drawing up delivery plans at the same time as production plans, and increasing the personal responsibility of workers throughout the system are proposed.

CPSU'S GORBACHEV TOURS FARM IN GEORGIA

PM251112 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 20 Jan 84 p 1

[GRUZINFORM report: "For Further Improvement of Agricultural Production: Comrade M.S. Gorbachev's Visit to Georgia"]

[Text] Over the last few decades our republic has rightly won prestige as a laboratory for the conduct of progressive experiments to develop the best methods for the management of agricultural production at all levels from rayon to republic. The quest which began in 1974 with the establishment of the first association for the management of agriculture in Abashskiy Rayon led last year to the establishment of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production.

The republic's experience and the economic experiments being conducted there attract the attention of leaders and specialists in agriculture. M.S. Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with republic leaders and party and agricultural organ personnel in the city of Gagra 17 January.

Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, together with E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, visited Gagra's citrus-growing sovkhoz, one of Abkhazia's developed and economically strong farms. Each year its workers dispatch tens of thousands of tons of tangerines, lemons, oranges, and other subtropical fruit to all corners of the country. The sovkhoz has often won the all-union socialist competition, and its name has been posted on many occasions on the Honor Roll at the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements.

The farm collective's labor successes are determined to a significant extent by the fact that it is basing its work on the modern achievements of scientific and technical progress and is bold in introducing them into production. One of the many innovations on the sovkhoz involves the gas-fired heating system for citrus plantations, installed on an area of 4.6 hectares, which has for several years now reliably protected the plants against the effect of low temperatures. Hero of Socialist Labor G.P. Kiriya, director of the sovkhoz, told the visitors that this technological method is highly effective for citrus-growing in Georgia, where it is developing the northernmost section of the planet's subtropical belt.

Georgia's scientists are engaged in the quest for new frost-resistant varieties and hybrids of citrus fruit which would, at the same time, be immune to mal secco, the dangerous plant infection. These are the qualities of the new dioscuria variety of lemon developed under Professor F.D. Mamporiya's leadership at the Georgian Institute for Subtropical Farming. At present the Gagra citrus-growing sovkhoz is being stocked with new-variety lemon saplings, whose fruit is furthermore distinguished by good consumer qualities.

While on the sovkhoz, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev was informed of other means to protect citrus plants from the effect of critical temperatures. These involve lightweight prefabricated frames made of metal and polymeric materials, with polyethylene sheeting stretched over them. The manufacture of the frames has been organized in the republic.

Comrade M.S. Gorbachev enquired about the detailed economics of citrus growing, questions of determining the buying and selling prices for the sector's output, and the problems of organizing the procurement and transportation of the highly perishable fruit, which were particularly acute last year when the republic's procurement ran to a record quantity of citrus fruit -- 352,000 metric tons, which was 142,000 metric tons above plan and 104,000 metric tons more than the year before.

The constant growth of the sovkhoz's profits provides the base for the social development of its collective. The working people here are provided with all the conditions for highly productive labor, meaningful leisure, and the satisfaction of spiritual needs. The visitor toured the Mziuri Boarding House at the sovkhoz where, following the modernization currently underway, the number of accomodation places will treble.

Comrades M.S. Gorbachev and E.A. Shevardnadze toured the 800-cow Gagra dairy complex. The modern technical equipment in the complex has made it possible to assign 100 cows to each operator and improve labor conditions for the stock breeders.

Having listened attentively to the explanations given by Hero of Socialist Labor V.R. Dzneladze, director of the stock unit and deputy to the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet, the visitor drew his attention to the need to deal more specifically with with questions of savings and to thoroughly analyze and eliminate the factors which hold back the growth of labor productivity and increase the prime costs of production.

Questions pertaining to the economic efficiency of agricultural production and the further improvement of the sector's management were the subject of a conversation [beseda] held afterward at the Gagra Gorkom. Comrade M.S. Gorbachev attentively studied plans [skhema] for the central apparatus of the Georgian SSR and Abkhaz ASSR State Committee for Agricultural Production and a new draft plan for the management apparatus of rayon agro-industrial associations.

G.D. Mgeladze, chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, reported on the work being done in the republic to further improve the management of this important national economic sector.

The functions and tasks of all basic structural subdivisions of the rayon agro-industrial association apparatus were described in detail. It was emphasized that, in the final analysis all their activity must pursue the sole goal of comprehensively strengthening and developing the economy of agricultural enterprises. The mechanism of the improved management organ itself will help to attain this goal.

The conference [soveshchaniye] was addressed by O.M. Bokeriya, first secretary of Gardabanskiy Raykom; O.G. Teneyshvili, first secretary of Makharadzevskiy Raykom; E.E. Kapba, first secretary of Gagra Gorkom; and V.I. Khutsishvili, M.Sh. Demuriya, A.A. Tsintsadze, and A. A. Sabua, chairmen of agro-industrial associations in Goriyskiy, Zugdidskiy, and Lagodekhskiy Rayons and Gagra City respectively. The conference expressed support for the draft rayon agro-industrial enterprise plan which had been presented and raised a number of questions requiring solution by the leadership organs.

Analyzing the conference results, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev voiced satisfaction with the fact that the Georgian party organization is, as persistently as before, conducting interesting quests for better forms of agricultural production management.

The structure of the rayon agro-industrial association apparatus which we examined today, he noted, merits approval. By sucessfully combining the territorial and sectorial principles of management, the new rayon agro-industrial association plan will be able to organically combine the interests of all rayon services and enterprises and orient them toward the attainment of the end goal -- increased output of agricultural production and successful implementation of the Food Program.

Comrades E.A. Shevardnadze, D.I. Patiashvili, and B.V. Adleyba took part in the conference's work.

SHEVARDNADZE VISITS FACTORY, LIVESTOCK COMPLEX

PM261027 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 20 Jan 84 pp 1-2

[GRUZINFORM report: "Sachkhere Cotton Spinning Factory: Start of Life Story"]

[Excerpts] The new cotton spinning factory has made it possible not only to considerably increase the production potential of the republic's light industry, but also introduce substantial amendments to the list of the mountainous Sachkherskiy Rayon's traditional jobs. The first output here was obtained in January 1984.

The commissioned first stage of the enterprise will make it possible to substantially solve the problem of employment of the population available for work in this region and provide it with new impetus in socioeconomic development.

On 18 January the republic's new light industry installation was visited by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee; D.L. Kartvelishvili, chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers; G.A. Andronikashvili and S.Ye. Khabeishvili, secretaries of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee; and leading party, soviet, trade union, and economic workers of the republic. They toured the enterprise, talked with workers, engineers and technicians, construction workers, and planners, and inquired about the production workers' working and living conditions.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze and other republic leaders highly appraised the work of the construction and assembly workers and stressed the very great socioeconomic importance of the commissioning of this major enterprise of the republic's light industry.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze pushed the control button of the No 1 unit. Hundreds of spindles began to turn, spinning began...

A ceremonial meeting began to mark the commissioning of the Sachkhere Cotton Spinning Factory. It was opened by D.V. Gorgodze, first secretary of the Sachkherskiy Georgian Raykom.

The floor was given to D.L. Kartvelishvili, chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers.

On behalf of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Council of Ministers, Comrade D.L. Kartvelishvili warmly thanked all those who took an active part in building the factory and wished them new successes in work.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze congratulated the meeting participants, plannes, construction workers, assembly workers, and operators on their glorious labor victory and wished them new successes in their work and personal life.

The same day, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze and the republic's leaders visited the Korbouli stockraising complex, familiarized themselves with the life and working conditions of the collective, and made remarks and expressed wishes regarding the further improvement of economic activity and the improvement of the contribution of the complex' stockraisers to resolving the Food Program.

AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION VIEWS CURRENT TASKS

PM260939 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Important Tasks of Agro-Industrial Associations"]

[Text] A routine session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission on Questions of the Agro-industrial Complex held on 23 January heard reports by leaders of soviet, agricultural, and procurement organs on measures being adopted in the RSFSR, the Ukrain, and the Georgian SSR to ensure the prompt preparation of grain and other agricultural crop seeds for the spring sowing.

It was noted that kolkhozes and sovkhozes in those republics are doing this work in a more organized way.

As the discussion showed, however, some agro-industrial associations are not showing the necessary concern for seed stocks. There is a particularly large amount of poor grade spring grain and pulse crop seeds on farms in the Buryat ASSR, Krasnoyarsk Kray, and Amur, Irkutsk, Tomsk, Kurgan, and Novosibirsk Oblasts. Each year the Georgian SSR fails to fulfill the plans, for the procurement of high grade seeds for state resources and substantial areas there are being sown with nonregionalized seeds.

The commission took note of statements by leaders of soviet, agricultural, and procurement organs of the above-mentioned union republics to the effect that they have taken urgent measures to eliminate the shortcomings in question and to provide farms with a full supply of high quality-graded seeds of all agricultural crops.

By way of monitoring, the commission session examined the question of progress in the fulfillment of USSR government decisions on preparing associations and enterprises of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of the Food Industry to conduct the economic experiment. In accordance with these decisions the scheduled figures, normatives, quotas, and all the essential methodological documents were sent out on time. In the process of preparatory work, special attention was drawn to the in-depth study by food industry workers of the principles of enterprises' activity under the new conditions. This has enabled labor collectives to adopt counterplans for increasing production volumes and improving a number of other technical and economic indicators. The commission instructed the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry and the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of the Food Industry to take all the necessary measures to ensure that the experiment is conducted successfully.

A question was heard on the work of fish-farming kolkhozes to ensure the fulfillment of fishing and fish output production targets in the current 5-year plan. Note was taken of the need to improve the use of the existing reserves on these farms, particularly in the use of factory ships, and to increase the productiveness of inland reservoirs.

The commission approved measures to further improve the system for improving the skills of leading cadres and specialists in the agro-industrial complex. The ministries and departments concerned have been instructed to prepare an appropriate decision on this particular question.

SPARE MACHINERY DELIVERIES NOT COMPLETED

PM260957 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 22 Jan 84 p 2

[Yu. Grachev report: "Strengthening Supply Discipline"]

[Text] Now, when the widespread preparation of equipment for the 1984 field work is in progress in the countryside, the efficient provision of workshops and repair enterprises with a full supply of spares assumes special significance. However, a considerable backlog can be observed in this work, as was also noted in the speeches of participants in a routine session of the All-Union Operational Staff for material and technical back-up for agriculture.

Thus last year, enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building (responsible official: V.I. Chernov, deputy minister and permanent member of the staff) failed to make full deliveries of 27 types of spares to agriculture. The Altay Motor Plant, the Voroshilovgrad Crankshaft Plant, the Vladimir Tractor Plant, the Kharkov Tractor Engine Plant, the Odessapochvomash Production Association, and a number of other enterprises failed to cope with the year's targets.

As the session noted, a similar picture has also been observed for a number of years at enterprises belonging to many other departments. When analyzing the work of suppliers on each occasion, session participants adopt decisions committing suppliers to ensure the smooth and planned supply of the necessary resources to the countryside. However, these decisions are not fulfilled by everyone.

Much has been said and written, for example, to the effect that enterprises of the Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry (Deputy Minister M.P. Parfenov is responsible for supplies) regularly fail to fulfill the targets for the production of industrial rubber goods. Nothing has changed, as they say. And once again we read in the staff's materials that the Barnaul and Volga Industrial Rubber Goods Plants and the Balakovorezinotekhnika Production Association had a considerable shortfall in their supply to the countryside of carcass stuffing boxes [Karkasnyy salnik], fan belts, washers, gaskets, and collars.

One particular demand was heard in the speeches of the session participants: It is time for those responsible for violations of supply discipline to be made fully accountable.

The session also examined other questions of the material and technical backup for agriculture. Participating in the staff's work were executives of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the USSR People's Control Committee, the USSR Gossnab, and representatives of ministries and departments.

PROGRESS IN FARM REPAIR WORK REVIEWED

LD191648 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 18 Jan 84 p 1

[Review by D. Tsyvarev, chief of the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture Main Administration For Mechanization: "Performing Repairs Rapidly and Well"]

[Excerpts] The crucial period of the mass preparation of equipment for the 1984 field work has arrived. This year the workers of the workshops, specialized enterprises, repair plants, and engine yards have been set the task of preparing the entire pool of vehicles and tractors ahead of schedule in order to completely relieve kolkhoz and sovkhoz machine operators of repair worries by the start of the spring and direct their efforts toward successfully carrying out the sowing.

Many RSFSR krays, oblasts, and autonomous republics have been concerned in advance to ensure a rapid pace for repairing vehicles and implements. The engineering services have sought out defects in good time and filled in application forms for their repair.

On farms where the material and technical base is poor, light-duty premises have been installed for repairing tractors and combines. The majority of kolkhozes and sovkhozes have switched to the team-link form of organizing repairs. Throughout the RSFSR as a whole over 140,000 repair links and teams have been created, employing about 600,000 workers and mechanics. Over 1,500 repair teams are now working on a collective contract basis.

The situation with respect to dispatching machinery in need of repair to enterprises of the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture has improved considerably by comparison with last year. By the beginning of the new year the farms had delivered 101,000 grain harvesting combines, 8,500 potato harvesting machines, and 7,900 silage harvesting combines to these enterprises. Commissions have been created everywhere for receiving equipment returned from repair, and mass socialist competition has been organized among repair workers using moral and material incentive measures. The example of the initiators of this competition -- the rural workers of the Azerbaijan SSR and Minsk, Saratov, Voroshilovgrad, and Kustanay Oblasts who resolved to prepare all machinery for the spring ahead of schedule and to a high standard -- has been taken up everywhere.

All this has made it possible to step up the pace at which agricultural equipment is being restored. For instance, by 1 January 84 percent of tractors throughout the republic as a whole were ready while the figure for grain harvesting combines was 60 percent, for plows 96 percent, sowing machines 95 percent, cultivators 96 percent, and potato planters 92 percent. That is somewhat more than had been repaired by the same date last year. Moreover, 38 oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics (they include Leningrad, Bryansk, Moscow, Saratov, Kuybyshev, Gorkiy, Belgorod, Kursk, Rostov, and Orenburg Oblasts and others) have readied their sowing and cultivating equipment in full.

The kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Kalinin, Kaluga, Kostroma, Smolensk, Tula, and several other oblasts have a high percentage of their grain harvesting combines ready (70-81 percent). The farms of the Urals Region and West and East Siberia have substantially rectified equipment preparation.

Unfortunately, this serious, businesslike approach toward an important agricultural campaign cannot be observed everywhere. It is no accident that over 19,000 tractors of the K-700 type have still not been repaired on RSFSR kolkhozes and sovkhozes; of these there are 1,700 on the farms of Altay Kray alone while there are 1,300 in Volgograd Oblast and 900 each in Novosibirsk and Omsk Oblasts. Khabarovsk Kray, the Tuva ASSR and Amur Oblast are repairing the grain harvesting combines only poorly.

The readiness of the sprinklers and power pump units throughout the RSFSR is 2 percent higher than it was this time last year. However, many rural collectives have still not set about repairing them in earnest. Thus, on the farms of Perm, Sverdlovsk, and Chelyabinsk Oblasts the readiness of the power pump units is no more than 62-66 percent.

The main reasons for the slack repair tempo are poor organization, the shortage of repair personnel, and the later start in preparing machinery because of protracted harvesting work in the eastern regions of the RSFSR. At the same time the shortage of some spare parts is also having an effect. Some industrial ministries are failing to cope with deliveries of material and technical facilities to the countryside. And, of course, this has an adverse effect on the pace and quality of the repair of agricultural equipment.

The spring is not far away. There is not that much time left before the start of spring field work. We can come to this work fully prepared only by pooling the efforts of all members of the agro-industrial complex.

CREATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION URGED

PM181000 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Jan 84 First Edition p 3

[Letter from V.N. Vinogradov, academician at the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences and chairman of the All-Russian Nature Conservation Society Central Council; Academician I.D. Zverev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences; Academician N.A. Shilo, chairman of the USSR Academy of Sciences Far Eastern Scientific Center Presidium; and Doctor of Jurdical Sciences O.S. Kolbasov, chief of the USSR Academy of Sciences State and Law Institute Nature Convervation Sector: "A Comprehensive Approach; Scientists' Letter on Environmental Protection"]

[Text] Of the major problems today facing mankind, nature conservation objectively occupies an important place after the problem of maintaining peace on earth. The further existence of life on the planet and the state in which we will leave it to future generations depend precisely on the resolution of these two problems. We know how consistently our country advocates their sensible resolution. These problems are constantly at the center of attention of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government. New evidence of that is the text of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech at the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum, which particularly stressed that environmental protection and the rational use of natural resources are of great economic and social importance.

The Soviet Union has done and is doing much to conserve nature, ever increasing resources are allocated to these needs year in year out, and indubitable achievements do exist. But we think that they could be much more significant and the returns on capital investment much more effective if all our nature conservation work were conducted comprehensively and administered centrally.

In nature everything is united: Earth, water, air, flora, and fauna are interlinked so firmly that any serious change in the state of any of these components immediately affects the others. This means that they must also be conserved comprehensively. At the moment, despite the fact that we have a wide network of various nature conservation institutions and services, they are too disunited, in our opinion. Subordinate to different ministries and departments, the state inspectorates and commissions at times operate without coordination or else come into conflict with one another, damaging the common cause.

In our view, the departmental approach often prevents the ministries' nature conservation sections from working to the maximum benefit since they are essentially subordinate to those whom they are called upon to monitor, and their activities are not coordinated. This may partly explain the manifestations of "irresponsibility regarding the ecological consequences of decisions taken" which were mentioned in the text of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech. Furthermore, questions requiring timely handling have to be coordinated with numerous bodies, thus wasting valuable time.

For instance, interdepartmental barriers are restricting the development of the network of national nature parks in the country because it has still not been decided to whom they should be subordinate. The management of protected natural territories, of the country's hunting economy, and of the training and distribution of the relevant cadres needs to be regulated. Our public nature conservation organizations also lack common leadership and could work much more effectively if their activities were precisely coordinated.

It strikes us that things would be different if the reins of management and control of the state of the environment were in the hands of a single organization responsible for the elaboration and implementation of our nature conservation policy. With full power to make decisions binding on departments and with rights to monitor both the fulfillment of these decisions and the effectiveness of our nature conservation legislation, such an organization would be able to implement our policy on nature conservation questions much more quickly, to better standards, and more effectively.

The opening up of new territories, the construction and modernization of industrial installations, and the elaboration and introduction of new techniques and hardware -- any steps by us capable of influencing the state of the environment need to be subject to preliminary analysis from the ecological point of view. In such cases ministries are mainly interested in the economic side, but a coordinating nature conservation organization would be able to examine plans for siting production forces on the basis of a good knowledge and consideration of natural features.

Lack of coordination is currently an obstacle not only in practicing nature conservation, but also in studying it. Geology, climate, and biology are studied separately, leaving "blank spots" where these areas meet. To reduce the knowledge gleaned in different fields to a single whole, to perceive and forecast the interdependence between pollution of the environment, the climate, and people's health, in short to understand nature and man as a single whole -- these are the tasks today facing science. In order to successfully solve them it would probably be advisable to have a comprehensive nature institute. We need an organization empowered to demand and obtain the timely introduction into production of ecologically harmless techniques and other developments. This is often delayed by the departments themselves at present.

The implementation of the aforesaid proposals would not require new expenditure or additional manpower resources. We need only approach what we already have in a thrifty way.

Yu.V. Andropov's words on nature conservation have generated an ardent response and approval among scientists and practical workers: "...this problem needs to be approached comprehensively, from a statewide standpoint, and the entire system of managing and monitoring the state of the environment needs to be resolutely improved."

BRIEFS

UKRAINE'S FOOD DELIVERIES -- The stockbreeders of Lvov, Zhitomir, and Ivano-Frankovsk Oblasts have prefulfilled the 1983 plans and socialist pledges for the sales of all kinds of stockbreeding produce to the state. Lvov Oblast farms have delivered to procurement centers and processing enterprises 126,000 metric tons of cattle and poultry, 519,000 metric tons of milk, 310 million eggs, and 70 metric tons of wool. In Zhitomir Oblast, the purchases have amounted to 116,000 metric tons of cattle and poultry, 502,000 metric tons of milk, 127 million eggs, and 232 metric tons of wool. Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast farms have delivered to state resources 71,000 metric tons of cattle and poultry, 215,000 metric tons of milk, 92 million eggs, and 54 metric tons of wool. The sales are continuing. [Text] Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 23 Dec 83 AU] Kiev Oblast farms have prefulfilled the 1983 plans and socialist pledges for the sales of stockbreeding produce to the state. They have delivered to state resources 227,000 metric tons of cattle and poultry, 1,005,000 metric tons of milk, 825 million eggs, and 173 metric tons of wool. The sales of stockbreeding produce are continuing. [Summary] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 23 Dec 83 AU] Vinnitsa, Ternopol, and Volyn Oblast farmers have fulfilled the 1983 plans and socialist pledges for the sale of stockbreeding produce to the state. The sales of stockbreeding produce to the state is continuing. [Summary] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 27 Dec 83 AU]

UKRAINE FULFILLS PLAN -- The agricultural workers of the Ukrainian SSR have fulfilled the 1983 plans for the sale of meat, milk, and eggs to the state. The republic's farms have delivered to procurement centers and processing enterprises 3,520,000 metric tons of cattle and poultry, 14,195,000 metric tons of milk, and 9,352 million eggs. The sale of livestock produce to the state is continuing. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 30 Dec 84 AU]

ARMENIAN MEAT PRODUCTION -- The enterprises of the Armenian SSR Meat and Dairy Products Industry Ministry reported the fulfillment of the 3-year meat and dairy production state plan on 20 December. By the end of the year an additional 28 million rubles of gross output will be produced. [Summary] [Yerevan Sovetakan Ayastan in Armenian 6 Dec 83 p 1 GF]